

Through the looking glass

With the arrival of the silly season comes yet another spate of newspaper articles purporting to say what Mrs Thatcher will do when she reshuffles her Cabinet. (Why is it always called a "reshuffle" - why not a shuffle?) In truth, nobody knows who is going and who isn't. This is why so many names are mentioned by one political correspondent or another. By the time everybody's name has been dragged in, there's a good chance someone, somewhere, will be right about something. What everybody does seem agreed on (and must, therefore, be highly questionable) is that there are going to be some important Cabinet changes, and that these may be announced at the end of August or early in September, the timing being determined by news management considerations such as how to grab the headlines from the SDP. No doubt as August wears on and the news becomes even thinner (one hopes) the political correspondents of the Sunday papers will have more time to refine their speculations about the timing of the changes and the personalities certain (or rather, not certain) to be involved. Such matters have always provided the Tapers and Tadpoles with their staple, and good luck to them.

Every now and then the spotlight falls fleetingly upon Sir Keith Joseph whose 67 years make him an obvious potential candidate for the early bath. His health becomes the subject of solicitous concern. His high status as "one of us" and one of the staunchest supporters of the medium term financial strategy is noted. So is his expected reluctance to make way for someone from the substitutes' bench. His dispute with the teachers has tended, till now, to be seen as a reason why he would not be moved. Over the past 10 days, however, his stock may have fallen. Sympathize as one may with his impossible situation at CLEA, there is no avoiding the conclusion that he emerged from it somewhat battered, and his battering did not cease when he met the House of

Commons Select Committee a few days later.

It seems a pretty long shot, but there must just be a chance that Mrs Thatcher and her close advisers will recognize the serious nature of Government's loss of public support, and that their strategy for putting the administration back on its feet might include, *en passant*, trying to cut short the present confrontation with the teachers. If so, a change of Secretary of State would be a classic way of signalling a new start.

It doesn't really look like a very convincing plot - the Government probably feels it has more to lose by appearing to give in to the teachers than by sweating it out. Unless, that is, the reshuffle is to betoken a real U-turn, and this seems highly improbable.

The second possibility would be a change of minister, but no change of policy. This would be based on the notion that, while Sir Keith has succeeded in providing Mrs Thatcher with a "Conservative" education policy - the first minister to do so in living memory - he has conspicuously failed to sell it to the British public, and he has alienated the educational world, political as well as professional, even more by his style than his prescription. Now might be the time, when the policy is in place and is working itself out, to put in a good public relations man or woman to give the policy a human face and a persuasive tongue.

As it happens, the version of *La Ronde* favoured by many commentators replaces Mr John Selwyn Gummer as chairman of the Conservative Party with Mr Norman Tebbit and sets Mr Gummer down as Sir Keith's successor at Elizabeth House. Here, indeed, is a scenario to conjure with. For some reason Mr Gummer's talent is thought to be for communication. In his time he has worked on Mrs Thatcher's speeches, and as party chairman he followed in Mr Cecil Parkinson's footsteps on to every available morning radio programme and TV chat show as the Government's instant advocate. He is also comparatively young and has a young family. He might be

expected to mobilize more effectively than Sir Keith the Government's populist support.

So far his brushes with the teachers have been sporadic and mainly acrimonious but if he became minister no doubt he would turn on the charm which he has so far reserved for devoted constituency party workers. Admittedly the "Send for Gummer" theory owes more to the belief that he has to be found a job somewhere than to any serious contention that he would be God's gift to education, but there is unfortunately nothing new in such a method of choosing education ministers and the educational world had better not advertise its hostility to the idea of his appointment or Mrs Thatcher will find it irresistible. Perhaps the only way to head her off would be to spread circumstantial rumours that he is Fred Jarvis's preferred candidate.

There have also been a few hints that this could be the time for a new imperial share-out between the DES and the MSC. According to one report, Lord Young waits in the wings to head up a new Ministry of Further Education and Training, based on the YTS plus the whole of non-advanced FE and all the other educational interests of the MSC such as TVEI and the vocational education exams. The precise cut-off line between the DES and any new ministry would provide Whitehall with a classic territorial dispute. The MSC would clearly like to reserve the right to exercise an influence on what happens to pupils between the ages of 14 and 16. Similarly, the DES would defend its turf.

There would be large added complications if the new arrangements for FE and training meant shearing institutions and staff away from the I.e.s. and creating a new set-up based on (say) the MSC's network of appointed boards. All of which would, no doubt, keep Lord Young busy till Mrs Thatcher could find some other trouble for him to shoot - or, perish the thought, until such time as he was ready to add the DES to his portfolio.

COMMENT

Two cheers for GREAs

The change in the rules on local authority spending targets - as the report on page 5 makes clear - represents another massive switch in policy at the Department of the Environment. By a strange coincidence it will have the effect of reducing the pressure on some mainly Conservative authorities and stepping it up on a familiar list of Labour urban areas.

The reasons for this latest round of RSG gerry-mandering - is this a fair description? - is the Government's decision to discontinue the use of arbitrary targets laid down by the Department on the basis of previous spending, and to move instead towards a regime in which the Grant Related Expenditure Assessments (GREAs) become the only target.

These assessments are said to represent the spending required to provide a standard level of service: in fact, they are based on a weighted formula which takes into account a range of economic and demographic factors relating to each authority and are, therefore, relatively objective: whether the balance of weighting in the formula does, in fact, provide final assessments which enable a standard level of service to be provided is a matter of controversy.

Placing more reliance on GREAs, however, must be a step in the right direction. The target system was a negation of the GREAs system. It was introduced by Mr Michael Heseltine, as part of his frantic effort to get local spending under control. It was particularly unfair to authorities (many of them Conservative, then under Conservative control) which started from a low base. Such counties are among those I.e.s. which will now find they can increase their budgets, by stages, to the GREAs level which they have not,

till now, been allowed to do. By the same token high spending areas have been "unfairly" favoured hitherto (though this would be hotly contested in every case), and for them the GREAs will signify yet another tightening of the screw.

None of this will provide a penny place more for education as a whole. Combined with the regime of penalties and rate-capping it simply indicates another attempt to tilt the balance against the cities and towards the counties. "Fair" or "unfair" within the rationale of the Department of the Environment, the changes are a further reminder of the undesirable large area of discretion reserved to the holder of Mr Jenkin's office. What is clearly needed is a system of central government support for local government which is more effectively insulated against the vagaries of current party politics.

Is it enough?

Nobody could call the Government's latest announcement about money for computers in education generous. The new central unit which replaces the Microelectronics Education Programme next year will have £2.2 million and the Department of Trade and Industry will find another £3 million over the next three years to subsidize software purchase. This is fine as far as it goes, but it doesn't go very far.

The Government has made clear that it regards its support for microelectronics in education as pump-priming, not as a permanent arrangement. This is not unreasonable. With all its deficiencies, the Rate Support Grant provides the main-line central government's share of finance for local authority services. But nobody in his or her senses could say that local education authority finances are currently in



a state of robust health. Arguably, I.e.s. budgetary arrangements are such that they could never find it easy to cope with the particular problems posed by new and rapidly developing technology where, ideally, the schools should not only respond to what the market has to offer, but lead it by making their needs known.

The DTI's decision to put money into software - and to do this by subsidizing purchase rather than production - is a sensible sequel to the Department's earlier dynamic intervention with funds for hardware. But given the speed with which things are moving it would be a great mistake to suppose that hardware has been "dealt with" once and for all.

Value for money

The DES Architects and Buildings Group has emerged from an "efficiency scrutiny" - what awful jargon Rayner has left behind - with flying colours. The Group, now part of Architect and Building and Schools Branch II, is the rump of what used to be the A and B branch, which combined the activities of the Architects' De-

velopment Group with territorial responsibilities for the supervision of the school building programme and the approval of I.e.s. projects.

The architects have been through a difficult time as priorities have changed. Less effort now goes into large demonstration projects concerned with interpretation of new ideas on the curriculum and teaching methods. More effort goes into exercises on the contraction of the system - improvement schemes made possible by the removal of surplus school places and the redevelopment of sites. More effort, too, is needed - as the scrutineers strongly recommend - for maintenance and all the practical questions which arise from a large stock of deteriorating schools.

In the light of the recent HMI survey which highlighted the educational consequences of neglect, the recommendation that the architects should devote more effort to monitoring the state of the building stock (with a closer linking between A and B staff and HMI) is of special importance. But topical as this is, the main justification of the DES architects must depend on their development skills and their ability to give creative meaning to the difference between value for money and cheapness. They must stand for value for money - for quality and high standards no less than for true economy. If the scrutineers' advice is followed this high calling will get a new lease of life.

no comment

"Because of the importance of consultation about students' progress on A level courses, a special consultation has been arranged for their parents on Wednesday afternoon... The appointments are of six minutes duration and this must be strictly observed."

Letter to parents from head of Roundwood Park School, Hgghenden, Herts.

Second opinion

Time to come to the aid of languages

It is encouraging to see the positive and constructive approach that is the key-note of the consultative letter about the future of the Centre for Information on Language Teaching (CILT), issued by the Department after Sir Keith Joseph's recent Commons statement.

I see the creation and continuing existence of CILT as one of the undoubted successes in the language field.

I was heartened to find this view widely expressed at the recent national conference on "German in the UK", organized jointly by CILT and the Goethe Institute, where I was Sir Keith Joseph's statement was released. This support came equally warmly from secondary, further and higher education teachers and lecturers.

The letter is following up the announcement that there will be a review of the balance of CILT's activities in collaboration with its governing body and its clients, both in the education service and industry and commerce. I want to encourage all those who value CILT's contribution to let the Department know of the activities in which they have participated, which have been of benefit and which they would wish to preserve.

Over the past 20 years, enthusiasm for the extension and improvement of modern language teaching has waxed and waned with disquieting regularity. Happily, the present Government has made its support quite unequivocal and this is repeated in Sir Keith's statement as is his recognition of the need for CILT to make "a significant contribution to the support of foreign language teaching". My plea is that: first we recognize that the improvement of language performance over a wider range of our population is a long-term process and involves the active participation of all sectors of the education service, from primary to post-graduate levels, and of industry and commerce; secondly, CILT is the only body well placed to encourage and orchestrate such participation from such a wide range of interests.

The major stumbling block is not one of resources or methodology, but of national attitude stemming from both our traditional insularity and our repeated experience of the advantage abroad of speaking as our native tongue the only language that can now make any sustainable claim to international status. Motivation is the key to success and this must come as much from employers as from education.

I recognize that the Government may well not feel that the full cost of activities across this broad front should be shouldered by the Department of Education and Science, which may wish to direct its support particularly to work in schools when, in the light of current restrictions on public expenditure, self-supporting activities by CILT would not be possible. This possibility strengthens the need for those of us whose involvement in modern language learning has been across the board to emphasize the importance of CILT's retaining the wide range of interest and to search with it and the Government for alternative sources of support, both from industry and commerce and Departments of Government associated with these spheres of activity. I should be delighted to hear from anyone who shares these views and would be ready to pool ideas for combined presentation to the DES.

G Roy Potter

Mr Potter, former CEO for West Sussex, is a long-serving member of the CILT board and a member of the consultative committee.

Government architects' services 'still needed'

by Sarah Bayliss

An efficiency study of the Architects and Buildings Group in the Department of Education makes a strong case for its retention "on value for money as well as on educational efficiency grounds".

The report, however, recommends a less bureaucratic system for approving local authorities' capital building projects and says eight DES posts could be cut, saving £156,000. In future the Secretary of State would normally give his consent when the local chief architect had signed a certificate confirming that Government regulations had been complied with.

The group, which was established 40 years ago to spearhead the post-war school building programme, still makes an important contribution, especially in terms of research and development, according to the report's author, Sir George Moseley, a former permanent secretary at the Department of Environment and Mr Bryan Seddon, director general of design services at the Property Services Agency.

The number of civil servants employed in the group peaked at 150 in 1972-73 but has since fallen to 76, in line with the nationwide contraction in school building.

Given falling pupil numbers and constraints on public spending, the group has stepped up its work on the maintenance and management of school buildings. But the report says this should be a higher priority.

In addition, there is a strong case for the group ensuring that educational building, design and construction continues to "meet the needs of the curriculum" and to "reflect changes in teaching methods."

Efficiency Scrutiny of the Architects and Buildings Group at the DES is available free from Room 152, DES, Elizabeth House, York Road, London E2 7PH.

IN BRIEF

Remaking the grade

Applications for postgraduate teacher training places in maths have fallen by 21 per cent since last year and by 31.5 per cent since 1983. Mr Bob Dunn, education junior minister, said last week.

By July 10, the graduate teacher training registry had received only 1,119 applications for entry this September, he told the Commons. Corresponding figures for 1984 and 1983 were 1,420 and 1,634 respectively.

But the drop has been even sharper in physics, where applications for postgraduate training have plummeted by 31.5 per cent, from 657 to 474, since last year, and by no less than 36.5 per cent since 1983.

Britain's biggest publisher of school textbooks - the Heinemann Group - has been taken over by Octopus Publishing, in the biggest merger in the history of publishing.

The Heinemann Group, which includes Heinemann Educational Books and the primary school publishing house of Ginn, has been valued at £100m. When the deal is approved by shareholders it will establish Octopus - owned by Paul Hamlyn - as Britain's biggest publisher with total book sales worth £150 million a year.

Tory chairman

The new chairman of the Conservative Party's National Advisory Committee on Education is Mr Maurice Venn, a House of Commons member and former deputy head of school in Harrow. Mr Venn, known as a moderate, succeeds Mr Les Lawrence, a Birmingham councillor.

NEWS

Training axe claims only one victim

by Biddy Passmore

The National Advisory Body's attempt to rationalize public sector teacher training, which at one stage threatened the future of 12 colleges, seems likely to end with the closure of just one: Hertfordshire College of Higher Education.

The NAB board decided on Monday to endorse the recommendation to end teacher training at the college and to veto a plan to transfer the places to Hatfield Polytechnic.

But it voted to reprove teacher training at the three other institutions on the final hit-list: the College of St Mark and St John in Devon, North Riding College and Portsmouth Polytechnic. St Mark and St John and North Riding have thus been saved from closure - in North Riding's case, for the second time in eight years.

Teacher training at the North London Polytechnic was revived in May, after strong expressions of support for its record of training ethnic minority teachers.

Board members also heard on Monday that the Department of Education plans to give NAB more money for the extra 550 teacher training places planned for next year. Ministers had earlier said the extra places would have to be paid for out of existing funds and NAB had consequently made plans to lose some 370 places in other areas.

NAB will discover how much extra money it will get in September, when its senior decision-making body, the committee, is expected to approve the teacher training plans.

The future of Hertfordshire (formerly Wall Hall) college has been blighted ever since NAB decided two years ago to withdraw funding for its diversified courses and recommended a merger with Hatfield Polytechnic.

That left the college with only its teacher training. So Hertfordshire County Council wrote to NAB proposing that that too should be transferred to the polytechnic. But the NAB board turned the proposal down, leaving no

alternative to the college's closure. Discussions about the transfer of its other courses to the polytechnic are still going on, Dr John Hirston, Hatfield's director, said this week.

Board members decided to reprove teacher training at the College of St Mark and St John on regional grounds and because it has reached a special agreement with Devon County Council. The college will retain its voluntary status but form part of the county's higher education plan.

The decisions to reprove the provision at Portsmouth Polytechnic and North Riding College were "knif-edge" ones, Mr Christopher Ball, NAB's chairman, said this week. In Portsmouth's case, rescue followed the polytechnic's agreement to expand the number of places, which are all in the primary sector.

In North Riding's case, strong regional arguments combined with a glowing write-up from its validators,

Leeds University, to swing the vote. Another important factor was North Riding's concentration on "early years training" - for children aged three to eight.

The college has not yet been visited by HM Inspectorate or the Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Training (CATE) but its jubilant principal, Mr Frank Wright, told *The TES* this week he thought it was "totally out of the wood".

North Riding was always one of the first colleges to close its books for applications, he said. It received three or four applications for every B Ed place and was "overwhelmed" with applications for post-graduate training.

Under NAB's plan, the intake to teacher training in the public sector will rise from 11,000 this year to 11,566 next. Most of the increase (405 places) will be in the primary sector, with 240 more B Ed places.

Hard-up Janet gets no change from Sir Keith

by Hilary Wilce

Janet Maggs leans heavily on her flexible friend. Without her Access card her badly overstretched budget would split apart at the seams.

As a primary school teacher, like thousands of her colleagues, at the top of Scale 2, she finds her income just does not match her basic expenditure. "My budget simply does not work," she says. "That is what is so very frightening."

Last week Ms Maggs accompanied Mr Joe Buone, president of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, and Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary, to a meeting with Sir Keith Joseph. The meeting, requested by the NAS/UNT in an attempt to break the pay dispute deadlock, ended fruitlessly. Ms Maggs was there to set before Sir Keith the harsh financial facts of the average classroom teacher's life, but found her presence brushed aside. Sir Keith, she says, told her he could not discuss individual cases.

In a furious letter to him the next day, Ms Maggs said she found this attitude "telling... you have frequently stated, along with other politicians, that you need specific examples and wish to hear from 'ordinary' teachers".

With her letter Ms Maggs sent her

budget. As a teacher at Mostyn Gardens primary school, in Brixton, south London, she gets a salary of £9,397, plus a London allowance of £1,038, plus a £276 allowance for working in a social priority school - all of which gives her a salary well above the average classroom teacher's pay of £9,208.

She is a single woman of 34, with a £24,000 mortgage to pay off, and finds she has just £113.81 left from her net monthly income of £585 to pay for food, newspapers, clothes, repairs and any unforeseen expenditure, after paying basic house and car bills.

Ms Maggs has told Sir Keith that she has not bought a dress since Easter 1982.

She defends her small suburban house and ageing car as vital on the grounds of safety. She no longer wants to live in the "grimy" inner city, or take public transport after dark. Last winter she was mugged in the early evening - on her way home from an in-service training course.

In her letter to Sir Keith, Ms Maggs says she will no longer be doing anything but her basic duties. At their meeting he gave her the impression, she says, "that teachers are absolutely worthless".

Scots union to step up pay campaign action

With two weeks to go before Scottish schools reopen, teachers are planning tougher industrial action in their campaign for a "fair settlement" to the pay dispute.

Backing the campaign, the Educational Institute of Scotland, the country's biggest teachers' union, is launching a £1 million fighting fund appeal - with members being asked to pay a voluntary monthly levy of at least £10.

Mr John Pollock, general secretary of the EIS, said it was now inevitable that teachers would be forced to intensify their action.

"Next week the EIS national chairman's committee and the EIS national executive will meet and will confirm tougher guidelines for the work to rule, curriculum boycott and examination boycott," he said.

"In addition, plans will be prepared for gradual intensification of industrial action throughout the 1985/86 session." He pointed out the junior Scottish

said that the summer holidays offered a "window of opportunity for negotiations".

Mr Pollock added: "Mr Stewart's window of opportunity closes on August 14 - and a year of increased bitterness lies ahead."

University does have renewed their demand for a better pay offer following the Government's recent salary award to top people.

The dons were offered 4% last March. They claim their pay has been eroded by 26% since the Government came to power in 1979.

Diana Warwick, general secretary of the Association of University Teachers, has written to Education Secretary Sir Keith Joseph calling for a "substantial improvement" in dons' pay.

It is essential if academic standards are to be maintained, she warned. The Government's decision on top salaries showed that there is real concern about the need to maintain the highest standards in the public service.



Janet Maggs: my budget simply doesn't work

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As the I.e.a.s. consider their response to the UDACE document *Helping adults to learn* Roger Little and David Peck urge adult educationists, FE teachers and careers officers to provide a more streamlined approach, without waiting for the MSC

Clearing a path for a wider age group

The Institute of Careers Officers held a conference earlier this year for those concerned with meeting the guidance needs of adults choosing new careers. Delegates drawn from a wide variety of organizations were unanimous on a number of points: the need was substantial; demand was growing steadily; and the response ad hoc and frequently insufficient.

Their experience was shared and reinforced by those who came to help with the conference. The quantitative evidence for this is now being drawn together despite the difficulty caused by an artificial deflation of the figures by those careers services which, sensing that their involvement is frowned upon officially, conduct their work with adults as if it were part of the informal economy and, therefore, not to be recorded.

In June, attention was drawn more sharply to the problem by the Unit for the Development of Adult Continuing Education in its excellent report *Helping Adults to Learn*.

The daily problems of adults seeking new careers are many and varied: all are seeking the opportunity to sit down with someone who can help them cut through the tangle of education information and grant arrangements.

Whether unemployed, under employed or seeking stimulation, those looking for help in finding a way through the mass of careers and training information have one thing in common - deep frustration with the artificial difficulties they find in realizing their potential.

Avoid though they may be to respond to Government pleas for personal mobility and flexibility and the development of skills appropriate to the information age, finding a way in seems very hard.

The official response of the moment encourages a proliferation of ad hocery between statutory and voluntary *'Helping Adults to Learn'*, available from UDACE, 19B De Montfort Street, Leicester LE1 7QE.

sectors, often temporary and liable to leave an intolerable legacy. The DES interest in guidance is welcome. It commissioned the Unit for the Development of Adult Continuing Education (UDACE) report and will shortly award the contract for a major new computer-assisted careers choice system for undergraduates.

But the DES must resist the easy option of padding its own canoe, giving way to the Department of Employment on sensitive issues and avoiding the bow-wave of the MSC. A facile and artificial division between "vocational" and "educational" guidance would simply perpetuate the unhelpful division between education and training so damaging to those seeking help.

The MSC's *Adult Training Strategy* might have relieved everyone's frustration, but has not done so yet. Directed through employers to the benefit in the main of those already in employment, energy had been dissipated for want of adequate guidelines. What the Bishop of Liverpool, David

Whether unemployed, under employed or seeking stimulation, those looking for help in finding a way through the mass of careers and training information have one thing in common - deep frustration with the artificial difficulties they find in realizing their potential.

Shepherd, has called "comfortable Britain" seems set on keeping the benefits of new technology to itself by perpetuating an inscrutable, incoherent system.

Information is not enough. A computer system could trot out a range of options to an enquirer, but could not provide the evaluation of one against another, the qualities required, or the local labour market, needed by a kind not faced since leaving school. A recent study of 300 adults in Leeds identifies three basic needs: information; someone to talk to; and courses with definite objectives which lead

careers advisers are made by Jobcentre staff, quick to admit that their own resources for the very necessary role of vacancy filling cannot possibly stretch to the increasingly sophisticated and complex problems presented by individuals.

There were signs of hope three years ago with the emergence of educational guidance services. This disparate group of initiatives suffers from a fashionable malady - it is funded by "funny money" of which there is no shortage. The European Social Fund, the Urban Aid Programme, DES grants are all used in a strange variety of ways. The difficulty, to quote,



Open door... the chance for adults to pursue a new career

Jonathan Brown, the chairman of education guidance's national association, is that "funny money ceases to be funny when it stops".

The very availability of such devices avoids, and even discourages, the development of a long-term strategy based on existing expertise. The Department of Employment seems unwilling to recognize the very large number of older people who continue to use the careers service. The House of Lords Select Committee recommendation to adopt a definition of young people consistent with the EEC has been effectively ignored. Central government departments might well argue that it is for local authorities to say how they spend their money. Those one or two who have chosen to ignore the writing on the wall have achieved impressive results by extending their careers service to a wider age group.

There are no obstacles in legislation. The 1973 Employment and Training Act lays down no age restriction on the careers service and those who are in, or contemplating a return to, education fall easily within its scope. Nor would the provision of appropriate resources materially affect the local authority budget as a whole. Most L.e.a.s. spend less than 1 per cent of their local budget on this important service.

Networking is the fashionable word in the area, and a rightful acknowledgement of the variety of people who have a contribution to make. It is now time that every local authority held all the information at present available in Jobcentres, providing as a natural corollary a way through to a careers adviser for those unable to act on information alone.

Adult educationists, further education teachers and careers advisers need to examine the most effective way of co-operating to meet the needs of a significant slice of the population. To avoid the frustration and waste caused by the pursuit of inappropriate courses: to

recognize what a significant factor is the achievement of any employment strategy is a presentation and interpretation that helps the individual to identify a personal place.

Helping Adults to Learn identifies the L.e.a. as the appropriate agency to co-ordinate an educational guidance network. It points out the need for local guidance units, a substantial information base, a service independent of any educational institution and with interviewing and advice-giving skills and training in assessment and counselling.

The careers service is described in the report as "often having access to the largest body of information within its area on education and training opportunities and on such matters as course entry requirements and grants, and having officers with substantial expertise in counselling and advice-giving as well as in training in these fields."

In acknowledging this, the report has surely identified the hub of its proposed network within the L.e.a. To build upon the foundations of the established careers service would be administratively sound and politically defensible, providing the base for the education service needs if it is to play a full part in economic reconstruction and individual self-realization.

Roger Little and David Peck are county careers officers of Hereford and Worcester and Shropshire respectively. This article represents their personal views and not necessarily those of their employers.

Correction

In the article on page 4 of last week's issue, the paragraph which begins 'MPS offer two measures' should have read: 'MPS offer two measures: OC1 passes which they describe as a 'useful measure of the attainment of the more academically able' whilst their OC points 'indicates the attainment of the whole ability range taking both GCE and CSE examinations'.

Mike Durham and Biddy Passmore report on the consequences of the new rules for local authority spending

City budgets squeeze to continue

The Government's new rules for local authority spending will reduce restrictions on many shire counties and tighten them for inner-city authorities. But no council is likely to receive a huge windfall.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary, announced last week that he is to abolish the old and much criticized system of targets and penalties designed to curb local government overspending.

It is to be replaced by a new "spending target" based on each council's Grant Related Expenditure Assessment (GREA) - the Government's annual estimate of the amount an authority needs to spend to maintain a standard level of services.

On the face of it, this is good news for those authorities, mainly Conservative-controlled shire counties, which have underspent on GREA.

High-spending authorities which have overspent on GREA, on the other hand, now still face penalties unless they reduce spending to meet the new "target".

On the basis of a comparison using this year's figures, Norfolk seems to gain most. It has underspent on GREA by 10.5 per cent and the new rule would appear to allow an extra £26 million worth of spending.

In the past, Norfolk has complained that because of Government penalties, it would have to find an extra £90 million to spend up to GREA. L.e.a.s. in a similar position have included East Sussex, Dorset and Buckinghamshire.

But, in fact, penalty clauses in the small print of the new regulations will only allow an authority to increase its spending by up to £4 million.

Norfolk will be particularly anxious to increase education spending in view of last year's HMI report which criticized the county's provision of books, school maintenance, in-service training and the schools advisory service.

At the other end of the scale, the hardest-hit L.e.a.s. include rate-capped Haringey, Newcastle and Liverpool, as well as the London borough of Waltham Forest which is hung but Conservative-led.

The London borough of Haringey and the Inner London Education Authority are to be rate-capped in 1986 for the second year running.

The news of rate-capping was greeted with gloom. In Newcastle the council's spending limit for 1986/87 has been pegged at this year's budget of £134 million on all services.

A council spokesman said the restrictions could mean phased cuts of about £12 million, half on education. Newcastle had previously warned it might have to slash 650 teaching jobs if it was rate-capped.

Liverpool faces a deficit of £29 million this year. With rate-capping it could face cuts of at least a further £20 million next year, according to leader Mr John Hamilton. The council is being told to reduce its spending to below this year's budget.

In Haringey the Government's spending limit has been set at £136 million compared with anticipated spending of £164 million this year. Education chairman Mr Bob Harris said the council was not anxious to say what the effects might be in view of the L.e.a.'s success in not making cuts this year.

However the £1 million phase II of Haringey's further education college could be particularly vulnerable if cuts do have to be made.

In all the authorities the position is complicated by the effects of abolition of the upper-tier county authorities in May, along with redistribution of the advanced further education pool. The Government has not yet said how much money will be available to authorities to compensate for the changes.

Only the ILEA - which spends so much more than the Government thinks it needs that it gets no grant at all - will benefit directly.

Mr Steve Bundred, who chairs ILEA's finance sub-committee, hailed the Education Secretary's announcement as a "major victory" that went "some way to offsetting the huge sums of money which the Government has robbed from inner London in the last five years".

The proposed changes in the pooling formula will be sent out to the local authority associations for consultation later this month and Sir Keith will then incorporate them in regulations in the autumn.

Now the Inner London Education Authority, which won the case against the Government, will have to pay some £25-30 million less into the AFE "pool". But other authorities such as Surrey, with a very high number of student residents, will pay more.

Changes in local authority contributions are, however, likely to be reflected in adjustments to their grant-related expenditure assessment (GREA), the figure which now determines how much grant they receive from central government. Thus L.e.a.s. contributing more will not be hit by contributing less of grant and those contributing less will not gain.

The Inner London Education Authority reacted cautiously to the news of a Government-imposed spending level for next year some £43 million lower than its current budget.

Sir Keith Joseph told the Commons that the new, directly elected authority - which will automatically be rate-capped for the first three years of its existence - should spend £902 million in 1986-87, compared with £945 million this year.

The cut is not as drastic as it seems because most of it is accounted for by proposed changes in the "pooling" arrangements for polytechnics and colleges. "AFE contributions to be reassessed". The ILEA is expected to have to contribute £25-30 million less under the new system and that has been reflected in lower spending.

After adjustments, the actual cut in ILEA's budget is 1.5 per cent (£14 million) although the real cut could be much larger, with inflation running at 7 per cent.

Mr Steve Bundred, who chairs ILEA's finance sub-committee, said it was too early to say precisely what the effect of the new spending level would be.

The announcement about ILEA's spending has two curious aspects. First, it is the only rate-capped authority to have its spending level set by the Education Secretary, not the Environment Secretary. Secondly, the spending level has been announced to the present authority, which consists of GLC councillors and inner London borough nominees, but the budget to which it relates will actually be implemented by the directly elected members who take office in May 1986.

LOCAL AUTHORITY EXPENDITURE RELATIVE TO GRE, 1985-86

L.e.a.s. are ranked in order: those at the top are the highest overspenders on GRE this year, descending to the most underspent on GRE. Authorities towards the top of the list appear to face the biggest cuts; those with a minus sign may gain. The Government has imposed penalties on a sliding scale with worsening thresholds at 5 per cent and 10 per cent above GRE. Current targets and over/underspending this year are listed in columns 4 and 5 for comparison.

Authority	Budget above or below GRE	GRE £m	L.e.a. 1985-86 £m	Target £m	Budget above or below target
ILEA	69.88	568.39	946.08	900.37	4.98
Haringey	34.37	101.25	136.05	128.72	7.40
Newcastle upon Tyne	30.75	102.74	134.33	126.72	8.85
Liverpool	21.69	217.84	265.00	222.08	18.34
Waltham Forest	18.46	93.14	111.70	111.70	-0.80
Brent	18.27	125.44	148.38	127.24	21.14
Hammond	17.21	78.03	92.83	87.17	5.66
Manchester	17.01	214.32	260.78	260.65	0.05
Sheffield	16.85	167.11	218.83	214.84	1.88
North Tyneside	16.66	66.84	77.98	76.87	1.11
Newham	14.91	114.94	132.08	124.15	7.93
Barking & Dagenham	11.97	56.38	61.88	61.72	0.42
Essex	10.28	71.78	79.15	77.24	1.91
Rochdale	9.38	82.99	90.63	89.94	0.69
Willingdon	9.21	62.99	64.30	63.72	0.58
South Tyneside	8.74	101.17	108.05	108.22	-0.17
Bromley	7.79	68.84	73.11	70.81	2.30
Tameside	6.61	68.84	73.11	70.81	2.30
Warrington	5.83	74.47	78.89	78.84	0.05
Sunderland	5.89	106.60	111.82	105.59	6.23
Wigan	5.84	72.01	74.89	73.34	1.55
West Glamorgan	5.33	141.20	148.72	142.72	6.00
Widened Upon Thames	5.25	60.13	62.76	61.72	1.04
Hereford	5.19	108.11	111.81	108.95	2.86
Wigan	4.80	97.35	97.35	97.35	0.00
Mid-Glamorgan	4.70	210.37	220.25	214.17	6.08
Conwy	3.88	117.88	122.55	122.55	0.00
Salford	3.14	95.39	98.38	96.22	2.16
Leeds	3.12	57.88	59.88	59.88	0.00
Leeds	2.88	78.00	80.40	78.80	1.60
Leeds	2.47	68.18	69.88	69.76	0.12
Leeds	2.06	88.05	88.88	88.12	0.76
Leeds	2.05	51.83	52.85	52.85	0.00
Leeds	1.97	183.83	186.83	186.83	0.00
Leeds	1.89	243.23	247.34	237.04	10.30
Leeds	1.46	103.07	104.57	102.07	2.50
Leeds	1.20	100.12	101.38	101.28	0.10
Leeds	1.22	46.32	48.32	46.32	0.00
Leeds	1.10	86.71	87.77	86.81	0.96
Leeds	1.09	323.56	327.07	316.79	10.28
Leeds	0.82	100.11	100.73	100.12	0.61
Leeds	0.21	135.03	138.32	135.48	2.84
Leeds	0.08	185.18	186.84	186.84	0.00
Leeds	-0.30	68.04	68.84	67.04	1.80
Leeds	-0.40	338.38	338.00	331.88	6.12
Leeds	-0.48	135.08	132.44	130.17	2.27
Leeds	-0.58	218.08	217.07	212.88	4.19
Leeds	-0.68	244.60	243.08	242.81	0.27
Leeds	-0.76	97.39	98.88	96.85	2.03
Leeds	-0.78	67.38	68.83	66.93	1.90
Leeds	-0.88	171.89	171.89	171.89	0.00
Leeds	-1.05	94.10	93.12	93.12	0.00
Leeds	-1.11	118.97	117.65	116.99	0.66
Leeds	-1.12	380.04	348.13	346.13	2.00
Leeds	-1.21	174.78	172.65	172.65	0.00
Leeds	-1.28	44.58	43.60	43.60	0.00
Leeds	-1.31	375.49	370.59	368.93	1.66
Leeds	-1.42	76.30	74.23	74.24	-0.01
Leeds	-1.43	111.58	108.98	108.33	0.65
Leeds	-1.63	118.13	114.23	117.51	-3.28
Leeds	-1.91	340.58	334.09	334.09	0.00
Leeds	-1.99	333.08	328.48	314.89	13.59
Leeds	-2.07	78.81	77.98	77.91	0.07
Leeds	-2.08	188.33	181.98	174.48	7.50
Leeds	-2.21	106.33	103.00	102.89	0.11
Leeds	-2.29	380.35	371.83	362.38	9.45
Leeds	-2.49	98.82	94.41	94.41	0.00
Leeds	-2.53	118.46	116.43	116.28	0.15
Leeds	-2.54	181.29	147.45	147.05	0.40
Leeds	-2.68	178.28	174.48	174.48	0.00
Leeds	-2.71	88.83	88.42	85.39	3.03
Leeds	-2.73	170.09	168.44	168.37	0.07
Leeds	-2.76	238.59	231.07	231.06	0.01
Leeds	-3.23	98.80	96.32	94.53	1.79
Leeds	-3.41	533.67	515.44	509.80	5.64
Leeds	-3.57	241.82	232.98	232.75	0.23
Leeds	-3.81	69.81	69.81	69.81	0.00
Leeds	-4.13	98.04	93.99	93.99	0.00
Leeds	-4.88	88.37	84.89	84.89	0.00
Leeds	-5.07	528.87	500.18	498.94	1.24
Leeds	-5.08	178.18	171.89	171.89	0.00
Leeds	-5.88	628.81	499.80	498.68	1.12
Leeds	-6.82	158.81	147.89	147.89	0.00
Leeds	-6.88	210.14	197.79	197.49	0.30
Leeds	-6.94	550.48	508.58	508.58	0.00
Leeds	-8.00	428.78	239.50	239.50	0.00
Leeds	-8.10	178.88	167.88	167.88	0.00
Leeds	-8.21	222.87	209.03	209.03	0.00
Leeds	-8.33	208.68	195.48	195.48	0.00
Leeds	-8.43	117.78	110.20	110.20	0.00
Leeds	-8.77	220.95	205.99	205.99	0.00
Leeds	-8.80	181.82	178.88	178.88	0.00
Leeds	-8.84	235.49	218.19	218.19	0.00
Leeds	-8.94	204.37	189.13	189.13	0.00
Leeds	-9.77	98.08	90.85	90.85	0.00
Leeds	-7.68	347.81	320.58	320.58	0.00
Leeds	-7.75	238.59	231.07	231.07	0.00
Leeds	-8.24	639.58	495.10	494.73	0.37
Leeds	-9.11	222.78	202.48	202.28	0.20
Leeds	-9.32	147.85	132.80	132.80	0.00
Leeds	-10.53	251.86	225.42	225.32	0.10

Rate-capped I.e.a.s warn of teaching job losses

Two I.e.a.s, Liverpool and Newcastle, will be rate-capped for the first time next year. But Sheffield and Brent have been taken off the Government's "hit-list" for next year.

The London borough of Haringey and the Inner London Education Authority are to be rate-capped in 1986 for the second year running.

The news of rate-capping was greeted with gloom. In Newcastle the council's spending limit for 1986/87 has been pegged at this year's budget of £134 million on all services.

A council spokesman said the restrictions could mean phased cuts of about £12 million, half on education. Newcastle had previously warned it might have to slash 650 teaching jobs if it was rate-capped.

Liverpool faces a deficit of £29 million this year. With rate-capping it could face cuts of at least a further £20 million next year, according to leader Mr John Hamilton. The council is being told to reduce its spending to below this year's budget.

In Haringey the Government's spending limit has been set at £136 million compared with anticipated spending of £164 million this year. Education chairman Mr Bob Harris said the council was not anxious to say what the effects might be in view of the L.e.a.'s success in not making cuts this year.

Virginia Makins on the scheme that is to replace the Microelectronics Education Programme

Waving a tearless farewell to the MEP

The national Microelectronics Education Programme (MEP) will have few mourners when it comes to an end next March.

Microelectronics and computer experts have welcomed the new central Microelectronics Unit announced by the Government last week, and the subsidy to help local education authorities buy software for schools.

But they are concerned that the £2.2 million allocated for next year is only just enough to consolidate work done so far.

When local authority spending is so tight, the I.E.A.s alone cannot sustain the continuing development of software and materials that is needed to carry the development of microelectronics in education further.

There is general recognition that MEP - whose elaborate regional organization was not always found useful by I.E.A.s - should now end in its present form.

"MEP has performed useful functions as a pump-priming operation. But there has been a lot of waste and duplication," said Mr Bryan Weaver, chairman of the National Association of Advisers for Computers in Education.

Advisers are pleased that the new support unit is closely geared to the needs of I.E.A.s, and that it is focused on what they consider the important priorities.

The new unit will provide a central information service, organize training



Richard Fothergill



Bill Tagg

to keep teacher trainers up to date, and sponsor some curriculum development materials. It will also continue MEP's work in special education.

Its managing board will be chaired by an I.E.A. representative, and will include representatives from industry and from the curriculum development and examining councils.

"It looks very hopeful: it's targeted at the right areas, and the strategy is good," said a county adviser.

The additional £3 million subsidy over the next three years, announced by the Department of Trade and Industry to help buyers of educational software, was also welcomed.

Educational publishers that have ventured into school software - particularly software for specialist subject teaching in secondary schools - are finding a very limited market when capitalism is very tight.

"Subsidizing the consumers, rather than the producers, is a healthy way of going about it," said Dr Bill Tagg, director of MEP's Chiltern region which, along with its original Hertfordshire advisory base, is a big producer of software.

The subsidy may prove essential to keep commercial software producers in business over the next few years. But it may still be difficult for pub-

lishers in the private sector to justify spending large sums on software development, when the market is still so limited.

But other experts believe that there is still a need for some nationally funded development centres for software to maintain close links with curriculum development and in-service work.

They also believe that some national funds should be provided to start to exploit the power of up-to-date (and increasingly cheap) microcomputers, and other new technology, compared with which the machines now in schools are extremely limited.

With MEP's demise, five development centres may have difficulties surviving, and will certainly have to reduce the scale of their work.

Three of them are concerned with software development for the mainline curriculum: the Computers in the Curriculum unit at Chelsea College (given some £250,000 a year by MEP), the ITMA unit in Plymouth and the unit at Homerton College, Cambridge (each with about £50,000 a year from MEP).

Other centres at Salford, Sunderland and Washington are concerned with control technology and microelectronics - both central to the development of modern craft, design and technology, which the Government sees as a high priority. Another unit backed by MEP, whose work has been widely praised, is Reading University's centre for music technology.

MEP's director, Mr Richard Fothergill, is also worried that the overseas consultancy work, which has steadily grown throughout the programme's six years, will disappear - although it may be essential in developing the export potential of materials.

The fate of the 14 regional MEP centres will depend on the value placed on them by contributing I.E.A.s. The more powerful and successful ones may well survive in some form, and certainly the cooperation between I.E.A.s engendered by MEP's regional organization is likely to continue in many areas.

Biddy Passmore reports on the reaction to the Prime Minister's suggestion that parents should be given more financial power over their children's education.

Assisted places 'increasing educational barriers' - Freud

The Prime Minister's claims that the Assisted Places Scheme broke down the barriers between the state and private sectors of education has been fiercely attacked by Mr Clement Freud, Liberal education spokesman.

On the contrary, the scheme was "further advantaging those already high in educational capital and creating greater disparities between the state and private sector."

"To expand the scheme would represent the final triumph of ideological prejudice over educational evidence," Mr Freud, who is well-versed on the scheme through parliamentary questions, said it was launched to rescue the bright, academically gifted child from the inner-city.

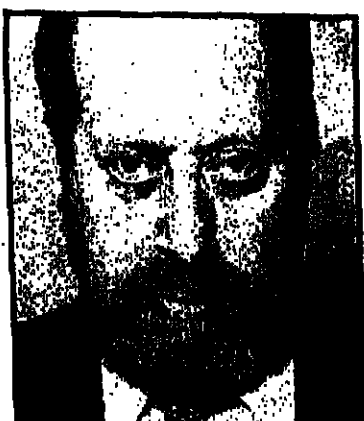
Yet 31 per cent of the children

attended private schools at the time of their selection and few of the parents had manual occupations.

"I suspect," he remarked, "that the single parents are more likely to be middle-class divorcees than inner-city council dwellers."

He contrasted the plight of state schools, where competition could not keep pace with inflation and where some buildings were crumbling away, with the average 8 per cent increase in fees allowed for schools taking part in the Assisted Places Scheme.

"The scheme is not a bridge between the two sectors," he said. What the scheme does is give Government backing to middle-class fears of comprehensiveization."



Clement Freud

The shape of things to come . . .

Britain in the year 2000 should have a system of "independent, separate schools", directly accountable to parents and free to manage their own budget, Mr Bob Dunn, junior education minister, said at the weekend.

This was likely to be achieved not through one measure but through several running concurrently, Mr Dunn added. He described the Assisted Places Scheme as "a step in the right direction" and suggested that further options were:

- the reintroduction of some form of direct grant;
- a re-examination of an access scheme which would give purchasing power to parents (he did not use the word "voucher");
- greater financial devolution to schools, with each school free to work within an annual budget.

These measures, which he described as "gentle, evolutionary steps", were set out in a speech to the International Symposium of the Open Society at Queen's College, Cambridge.

Government looking at direct grant scheme

Sir Keith Joseph has poured cold water on two of the Prime Minister's three proposals for extending parental choice.

But the Education Secretary has confirmed that ministers are looking at the introduction of a direct grant scheme.

"The DES has, at my request, been exploring the possibility of a limited experiment with the restoration of direct grant schools," he told MPs cautiously before the recess.

He virtually ruled out, however, an expansion of the Assisted Places Scheme or the introduction of vouchers. There had so far been no money for the former and the DES had concluded the latter was "impracticable", he said.

Sir Keith, who was giving evidence to the Commons select committee on education, explained Mrs Thatcher's remarks during a recent Channel 4 programme, *Diverse Reports*, as evidence of her "passion" to secure better schools for the future.

But there is no doubt that her

outburst caused surprise and embarrassment at the DES, where work on a limited direct grant scheme is still at a very rudimentary stage.

"We were just circulating papers till she went on telly", one of those involved said.

The proposals under discussion would not involve the old direct grant schools, many of which have now joined the Assisted Places Scheme. Instead, they envisage the setting up of primary or secondary schools by groups of parents or charitable trusts. They would probably use existing buildings made redundant by falling rolls.

The schools would attract a per capita grant from the Government. Parents who could afford to do so would top up the school's income by paying fees; other places might be free.

The schools would not just be intended as grammar school alternatives to inner-city comprehensives, it was stressed this week. They might well be village primary schools or themselves

Examinations dominate graded test teaching

An HMI survey of the effects of graded tests in modern languages in Leeds has shown that the teaching was too exam-orientated.

Test syllabuses were often used as teaching syllabuses, the inspectors discovered. The main drawback of this was that the tests did not encourage the use of the foreign language by either teacher or pupil, except in role play and pair work.

"Good method is more important than graded tests," the inspectors stress. "Entering pupils for the tests at the appropriate moment so that they are more likely to be successful is a better way of improving motivation than entry in lock-step because high failure rates in French are not likely to be motivating."

The disappointing results in the French tests taken in 1983 make it clear that secondary schools especially do not take enough account of pupils' progress before entering them, the inspectors say. Only just over half of the pupils from secondary and high schools passed levels 2 and 3 in French, for

instance. But the much better results achieved by middle schools - with 81.5 and 89 per cent getting through - suggest that they are more selective in their entrance policies.

The survey, which covered 27 schools, also found that the success rate in German was uniformly high at all levels in the secondary schools. The most surprising result was that the German in these schools, the inspectors say.

The report notes that the availability of graded tests has improved the motivation of some pupils. "Pupils like to receive certificates and parents are pleased when their children are presented with them", it says.

The inspectors conclude that graded examinations are not a guarantee of sound methodology, but that there is good work going on. Now more needs to be done to improve pace, progression and teaching methods. Last week HMI reported that modern language teaching in the sixth form was also too exam-orientated.

Ethnic background of teachers to be monitored

by Diane Spencer

The Government is to monitor the ethnic origins of teachers and students in teacher training, Sir Keith Joseph told Parliament last week.

The Education Secretary said he intended to set up a working party in the autumn to find out how the exercise - suggested by the Swann Report on the education of ethnic minority children - should be conducted. He was also considering an interim report from a working group on the collection of ethnic statistics on school pupils.

"I am aware that there is particular concern about the implications of the collection of such statistics by central government," he said.

A consultation paper will be issued by the DES inviting views on the reasons for the "apparent under-representation of ethnic minorities in the teaching force and on ways of counter-acting this."

The School Curriculum Development Committee and the Secondary

Examinations Council have agreed to cooperate on multi-ethnic matters, Sir Keith told the Commons.

The Education Secretary also intends to remind the Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Training of Swann's recommendation that all teacher training students should have the chance to practise in a multicultural school.

During the current financial year, £1m is being spent on 40 pilot projects assessing the education system's response to ethnic diversity. A further £1m in Education Support Grants will be available for new projects in 1986-87, Sir Keith said.

Discussions were already under way with the local authority associations on the possibility that the in-service training grant scheme should, as Swann said, be extended to include training for a national society. "I shall propose this formally to the associations in autumn," he said.

Modern reading schemes praised for their content

by John Bald

A spirited defence of reading schemes was made last week by Mrs Betty Root, president of the United Kingdom Reading Association.

Speaking at the association's annual conference at the University of Reading, she argued that modern reading schemes were an attractive and practical resource for teachers and that they often contained better stories than books which had come to be accepted as "literature".

It was rare for teachers to limit the reading experience of children to a single scheme, or to persist thoughtlessly with the same scheme for years on end. New schemes, on the other hand, were often based on close collaboration between publishers and reading researchers and were more effective in improving professional practice than most forms of in-service training.

A good reading scheme, Mrs Root said, offered a carefully constructed reading experience, with familiar and consistent locations and characters which helped children by "manipulat-

ing a situation in which they cannot fail". A very high rate of success had been established as a prerequisite of good practice with young children, and the language of many of the attractive books which were presented as an alternative to reading schemes could on closer examination be too difficult to be of any use to them.

She attacked those who "without authority" were going into schools and criticizing teachers for using materials which were often very well suited to their purpose, and was worried about "people who think that the way they believe in is the only way". One new head teacher, she said, had actually burned the books in his school's reading schemes because he couldn't stop the teachers from using them. Mrs Root called for greater tolerance and moderation in discussion of reading and for more support for teachers.

Analysis of schemes which had failed to catch on revealed poor marketing as an occasional pitfall as well as such esoteric theories of reading instruction as the placing of col-

oured shapes over words and of cards with single letters on them around children's necks. One scheme which Mrs Root felt had not been adequately promoted was Scott Foresman's *Read Systems*, which was, she said, well written and well illustrated, and one of the earliest schemes to reflect a multi-ethnic society.

Reading centres also had an essential role in making teachers aware of new material. No fewer than five publishers had major new reading schemes in preparation. This, she said, indicated their continued faith in the reading scheme as a resource for teachers.

She singled out for praise the work of Sheila McCullagh, whose output includes *One, Two, Three and Away!*, *Humming Birds and Puddle Lane*, an important new scheme for Ladybird books, which is intended eventually to replace that publisher's famous but much-criticized Key Words Reading Scheme. This was first published in 1964, and will continue to be available for the time being.

Virginia Makins reports on a primary science and technology conference

Stretching the limits of scientific skills

"Using all or some of the materials provided, construct a system that will light a bulb when a marble is released from the top of an inclined soft board and extinguish the bulb when it reaches the bottom. The bulb should stay alight for as long as possible . . ."

This, and two other similar problems involving technological problem-solving with paper clips and elastic bands and plasticine, set a recent conference in Brighton on primary science and technology buzzing with enthusiasm, according to its organizer, Mr Bob Tiffin, from Brighton Polytechnic.

Participants in the conference, set up by South East Forum, one of the Science and Technology Regional organizations (SATROs), also worked alongside children in "mini-classrooms", investigating water and energy, using machines with wood and cord, and playing with technical Lego.

Professor Wynne Harlen from Liverpool University told the conference that thinking on primary science had moved a long way from the "rather

emotive child-centred movement of the 1960s", when processes and attitudes were seen as all-important and curriculum content less so.

Now that science was seen as one of the bases of the primary curriculum, we should be clear about the scientific learning we want to bring about, she said.

Scientific skills, such as observing, interpreting, and making and testing hypotheses, cannot be deployed without some content, and the content affects the way in which the process skills develop.

Unless the content is right, there may be a "vicious closed circle in which children's own existing notions limit their ability to test these ideas scientifically."

Professor Harlen suggested that looking at the misconceptions of secondary pupils, it should be possible to identify a small number of "truly basic ideas" that would provide a real scientific foundation for primary pupils.

But she warned that "there is no



Technical problem-solving, such as this experiment with electricity, set the conference buzzing.

short-cut to concept development. No teacher can put ideas ready-made into children's minds."

Tests developed by the Assessment of Performance Unit (APU) had shown that while children were good at classifying objects according to observable features, they were much less good at explaining in a logical way why an object fitted into one group rather than another.

They had difficulty with questions

Government to spend £1/2m assessing science

by Hilary Wilce

Half a million pounds is to be given to the Association for Science Education to evaluate the effectiveness of primary science projects funded by Education Support Grants.

The three-year assessment of the work due to start in 56 local education authorities from this September, was announced by Mr Robert Dunn.

Speaking at an international meeting of secondary school teachers in Cambridge, Mr Dunn said too few primary pupils in this country were systematically introduced to science, and the greatest obstacle to progress was the lack of science knowledge among teachers.

The International Federation of Secondary Teachers, known by its French acronym, FIPESO, was meeting to discuss science and technology teaching.

Mr Dunn said policy developments on school science in Britain had two main implications. The first was the need to reduce the factual content of science syllabuses. "That is a hard thing to do since it is always difficult to change well-established patterns of work, but if it is not done we shall fail

to improve our science education in the way we need to."

The second implication was the need to reorganize science teaching away from teaching physics, chemistry and biology separately towards new ways of combining or integrating the subjects.

The 100 delegates from European countries and a few others, such as Japan, the Ivory Coast and Canada, were left in no doubt that relations between the Government and teachers in this country were at a low ebb.

Mr Derek Dutton, president of the Secondary Heads Association, which co-hosted the conference with the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, told Mr Dunn that the ideas outlined in his speech "would all come to naught" unless more money was forthcoming for education.

Teacher unions in 13 countries responded to a questionnaire on science teaching prepared for the conference. Wide variations in the place of maths and science on the curriculum were reported, but respondents were virtually unanimous in complaining that teacher training and in-service training were outdated and inadequate.

Benefits of bilingual teaching

by Sarah Bayliss

The value of school-based research and training for teachers, especially in multicultural education, is firmly underlined by a study into bilingual teaching in infant classrooms.

Based in Gravesend, Kent, the project began as an experiment, when a Punjabi-speaking teachers' aide was employed to work alongside teachers in reception classes. She took part in all the classroom activities, using Punjabi as her main language.

The professional skills of the class teachers were enhanced and two or three years later the school employed a Punjabi-speaking nursery nurse in its new nursery centre. But a major research finding also emerged: over nine months, the Punjabi-speaking pupils improved significantly in their command of English. "In contradiction to the popular myth that being taught in both English and the language of the home may somehow hinder the acquisition of English."

The findings in the summer issue of the NUT's *Primary Education Review*, Mr Colin Vaughan, warden of the Gravesend Teachers' Centre, argues that similar school-based studies might strengthen the case for mother tongue teaching.

He points out that the Plowden and Bullock reports of the 1960s and 1970s both looked at the teacher as a researcher. He considers it "a great pity" that the Swann Report failed to develop the idea and accuses him of "elitism" by writing as if all research and training went on in universities and colleges.

He claims that the kind of research which Swann alludes to is the "mass measurement and generalization" kind which has been "utterly useless" to teachers working in the classroom.

The NUT Review - which has language as its theme - also contains an article by Mr John Punter, general inspector for primary education in Surrey, who examines attitudes to poetry and the fact that HMI surveys have always found few pupils with an opportunity to listen to poetry.

Poetry, he says, will remain a Cinderella subject unless schools develop a language policy with literature at the heart of it. Poetry should not be limited to oral comprehension exercises nor should children be "obsessively directed towards the meaning of poetry."

Instead they should be encouraged to write their own poetry and to enjoy listening and reading it aloud to their children.

Primary Index

Puffin Island	16
Animal lib	17
Books in class	21
Children's literature	21
Events of museums and art galleries	24

Children's teachers got to grips with simulated classroom experiments - here showing an investigation of water and energy.

Richard Garner reports on the Professional Association of Teachers' conference at Guildford, Surrey

Teachers need new salary review body - SDP leader

Social Democratic Party leader Dr David Owen called for a pay review body for teachers similar to those set up for top public servants, the Armed Forces, nurses, doctors and dentists.

But he warned that unions should be prepared to negotiate a new "teachers' charter" which would include provision to remove security of tenure from the country's headteachers.

A review body would have awarded teachers a 7 per cent increase this year based on comparability figures. "Government would be obliged to honour awards and the present safeguard clause in review bodies' terms of reference would allow abatement only in exceptional circumstances."

Dr Owen added: "If the teaching profession opted for the review body procedure... rather than continuing with direct negotiations, they would at one stroke establish their public standing as a profession."

"In return for such a formula, however, teachers would have to be prepared to settle for a virtual no-strike agreement."

If teachers opted instead to continue

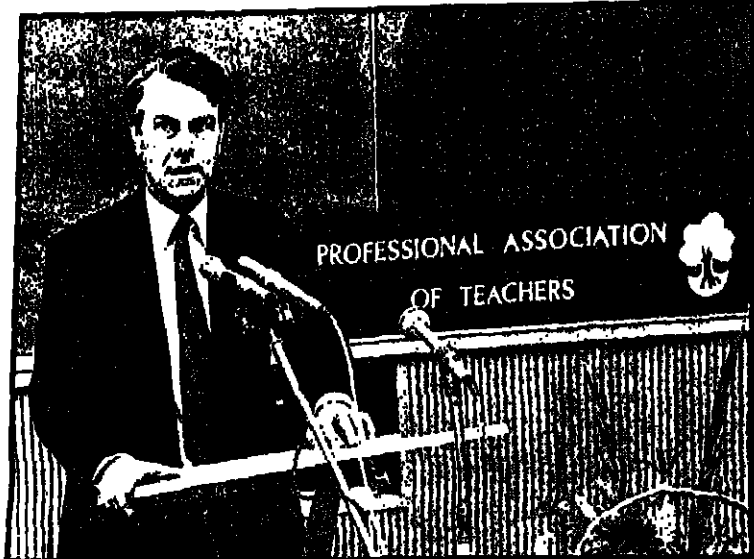
to seek negotiated pay settlements, they could opt for a system which ended up at "pendulum arbitration" - a system advocated at both the PAT and the National Association of Head Teachers' conferences this year - whereby arbitrators fix upon either the unions' claim or the employers' offer.

Dr Owen said there was a need for a new teachers' charter and for the Burmah Committee to be scrapped or restructured to allow pay and conditions to be discussed together.

He said parents would be prepared to "dig a little deeper into their pockets" if they felt the quality of teaching was going to be improved.

"What parents and the public want to be assured about is that there is an effective system of monitoring and improving the quality of teaching, and a pay structure that rewards and keeps those talents where they are needed - in the classroom," he added.

"Parents know a headteacher whose commitment and quality falls off becomes very quickly a liability and that there must be an easy way and a fair way of ensuring that they do not



David Owen... improving teachers' standing

continue as a headteacher."

Questioned by Mr Graham Leon-Smith, a headteacher from Hillingdon who warned that such a mechanism would further increase the prospect of local education authorities making "political" headteacher appointments, Dr Owen spoke of the need for outside independent representation on headteacher appointment panels.

"If you are well paid, and I think headteachers should be a lot better paid than they are, then I think you can't expect the same system of tenure," he went on.

"I have seen so many schools dramatically transformed by a change of head," he said. "I'll pay you generously in redundancy terms, but I absolutely insist that you've got to get rid of poor headteachers."

Dr Owen also warned that the Government seemed intent on cynically sitting out the teachers' dispute in

the hope that increased militancy by teachers would lead to a lack of public support for their case.

He said the withdrawal of goodwill from schools had been more damaging than the days lost through the strike action, adding: "The strike has been sustainable - more sustainable than some people thought - because many teachers felt that the pay offer was a culmination of a long series of insults and deliberately inflicted damage."

"The headteachers have acted well beyond the call of duty in keeping the schools open and running this year. They have been daily subject to intolerable pressures from all directions - desperate and militant teachers, buck-passing local authorities, bewildered parents."

"We are all expecting a lot if we hope the heads can perform the same miracle again next year."

Motion against Government is defeated

A motion declaring that the Government had no real interest in state education was heavily defeated at the conference.

Speaking for the motion, Mr Oliver Smith-Boyes, from West Chillingham primary school, West Sussex, said £6 billion had been estimated to have been spent on the miners' strike. "That will do nicely, thank you. It would give us at least a 45 per cent pay increase. It should pay for books and nursery education."

He added: "I believe this Government is neither just nor compassionate nor concerned with people's good."

However, Mrs Christine Early, from the Inner London Education Authority, complained of the "blackmail tactics" of other teachers' unions, adding: "I suspect it is not Her Majesty's Government but a substantial proportion of the profession which has no real interest in education."

Mr Bryan Round, PAT treasurer, added: "They (the Government) do have a real interest and their interest is to make it a better service. They believe that the sole ingredient should not be to pour more money on the present service."

"I don't think Sir Keith is the best thing since sliced bread but I do think he is a man of integrity."

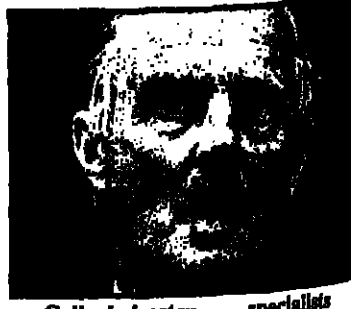
The motion was defeated by 141 votes to 30 with 18 abstentions.

Support for parents

The conference agreed a motion welcoming the increasing involvement of parents in their children's education - including helping in the classroom - despite a strong plea from Mr Colin Leicester, PAT's co-founder and vice-president, to reject the move.

He said: "I believe we are specialists - like surgeons or a judge. If a parent should come into my classroom facilitated by somebody else, she would not have been invited in by me. I would have taken her by the shoulders and shown her the door. Can you imagine any parent going along and helping a surgeon with an operation on their child?"

However, Mrs Shirley Firth, from Cambridge, replying to the motion, said that parents in the classroom were doing tasks which supplemented the teachers' role.



Colin Leicester... specialists

New truant law urged

A call for new legislation to define parents' responsibilities for their children's discipline was approved by the conference.

The motion called on the government to take positive steps to enforce existing laws on school attendance - for instance by taking the parents of truants to court.

It also called for further legislation which Mr Ron Chadwick, from Suffolk, proposed of the motion, and could be along the lines of the present French system - where child allowances are withdrawn from the parents of children who absent themselves or are excluded from school.

L.e.a. loses fixed-term contract case

by Richard Garner

An industrial tribunal has ruled that Hereford and Worcester County Council acted illegally when it ended 200 fixed-term contracts last year without consulting the National Union of Teachers.

In a statement which could have important repercussions, it has pointed out that any authority considering ending more than 100 teachers on fixed-term contracts must allow for a three-month consultation period with the unions.

Until now, the employment protection legislation specifying that there must be three months consultation if more than 100 employees in an establishment are to be made redundant has been interpreted as applying to only those cases where 100 teachers in a single school are to lose their jobs.

Last week's industrial tribunal ruling in Birmingham specifically states that the word establishment should be taken to mean local authority in the case of teacher redundancies.

At the hearing, Hereford and Worcester sought to argue that - since the teachers were given no promise of future employment once their contracts were at an end - they were, in effect, given notice when they were hired.

The tribunal rejected this argument and made a protection order giving compensation to the 200 teachers concerned - the same action that another tribunal took earlier this year when it ruled that Solihull Council should have consulted over the non-renewal of fixed-term contracts.

Following the hearing, teachers' leaders at Hereford and Worcester Council representatives are to meet today to discuss a new move by the council not to renew the contracts of 190 teachers on fixed-term contracts. Employment protection legislation states there should be a 30-day consultation period if more than 10 employees face redundancy in an establishment and 90 days if it is more than 10.

School trip safety drive mounted

by Hillary Wilce

A national training scheme is to be launched to give teachers and voluntary youth workers the basic skills of outdoor leadership.

The scheme will concentrate on such fundamental questions as correct clothing and equipment, safety procedures in bad weather, how to deal with emergency situations and hypothermia, and emergency responses.

Although planned before the Land's End tragedy which claimed the lives of four Buckinghamshire boys the drive to raise safety standards has been given new urgency by the disaster.

The Central Council of Physical Recreation has asked the Government for £230,000 to launch the scheme, £100,000 of which would be for grants to groups in deprived urban areas.

Mr Peter Lawson, the council's

general secretary, is optimistic about his chances of getting the money. "It has long been clear that there is a very important need to give voluntary enthusiasts some basic qualifications and confidence in handling groups of children in open country."

Some youth leaders did unbelievably stupid and foolhardy things, he said, such as going out without proper equipment.

Two pilot schemes are being run in Yorkshire to establish how to organize the new courses, which are likely to be either a fortnight long, or run over four weekends. Successful participants will be awarded a certificate by the CCPR.

Meanwhile the West Cornwall coroner, Mr Derrick Pepperell, has written to Buckinghamshire education authority with three recommendations,

following the inquiry into the four schoolboys who drowned.

He suggests that school trip organizers should exercise tighter control and supervision over children; that adult helpers who are not teachers should be given detailed instructions about their supervision responsibilities; and that teachers should make advance visits to any potentially hazardous areas on a school trip's itinerary.

The recommendations have been set out in a letter to Mr Charles Garrett, the director of education, who is to conduct a departmental inquiry into the tragedy next month, with Mr David Pullen, the county solicitor and secretary. A report of the inquiry is to be made public at a meeting of the schools sub-committee.

A spokesman for the Department of

Education and Science said this week that it might consider revising its safety guidelines in the light of this inquiry. The guidelines are not mandatory, and only issued for advice.

Mr Alec Askew, the 61-year-old head of Stoke Poges Middle School, who was in charge of the school party at the time of the disaster, resigned last week, and will take early retirement. This week he said it was "in the best interests of the school".

"It was not because of the parents or the school authorities, but because of the media, especially the things that were said following the inquiry. I do feel very deep grief and I'm very sad."

Bereaved parents are considering legal action, and the county council is anticipating claims against it by parents.

SDP seeks more cash for science

Britain would end up simply as a manufacturing base for European and American corporations if it did not invest more in science, Mr Michael Hancock MP, SDP spokesman on education and science, said last week.

Referring to last week's highly critical report on the science budget by the Commons Select Committee on Education, Mr Hancock said scientists were leaving for better research opportunities abroad.

For a science graduate, the Prime Minister had shown remarkable lack of concern for his subject, he added. Any economic recovery programme had to have adequate funding for scientific research.

The Select Committee report recommended that the DES's science budget be increased by at least 3 per cent above the rate of inflation for the next five years and said the Department should no longer be responsible for superannuation payments, restructuring costs and international subscriptions.



Getting their breath back: the North Vancouver youth band brought their UK tour to a climax last Saturday by performing in Trafalgar Square. During the three-week tour the young Canadians visited Shrewsbury, Aberystwyth and Portsmouth.

Susannah Kirkman reports from the Centre for the Study of Comprehensive Schools conference

Comprehensives told how to combat their opponents

Comprehensive schools still needed defending against critics who thought they were second rate, Dr David Hargreaves, chief inspector to the ILCA, warned the Centre for the Study of Comprehensive Schools conference at York last week.

Although they had survived the attempt to reintroduce grammar schools, they were now under threat from the Prime Minister's desire to create direct grant schools. The Government wanted to set up a bi-partite system with "private schools for the rich, and unresourced state schools for the rest," Dr Hargreaves said.

The failure to give teachers adequate salaries had been a terrible blow to morale, and the 32 per cent rise promised for the DES Permanent Secretary as part of the top people's pay increase was "an end-of-term stab in the back," protested Dr Hargreaves. "Some of the traditional goodwill of teaching staff will have vanished for ever."

The best way to defend comprehen-

sive schools was to improve them through partnership with the community, and better collaboration within the schools themselves, he said.

Parents were the best advocates of comprehensive education, yet most teachers remained rather afraid of them, Dr Hargreaves said. Parent-teacher associations and parent governors were not enough; teachers had to recognize that they were accountable to parents for their children's education and make secondary schools more accessible to them.

Cooperation between schools, L.e.s and higher education institutions should also be improved. Higher education tended to regard teachers as fodder for its pre-designed courses, rather than collaborating with L.e.s to design relevant courses for seconded teachers.

L.e.s should also encourage teachers to exchange good practice. Most sharing should be at local level rather than at national conferences, and schools should promote team-

teaching. Better partnership between teachers and pupils was also essential, Dr Hargreaves insisted. It was not surprising that concepts like active learning and negotiating the curriculum had been developed by colleagues in further education, as they had been forced to undo the bad teaching and learning of some comprehensive schools.

Many fourth and fifth-year pupils were on a "vague journey" to CSE and O level, without knowing the aims of their courses. Teachers should be prepared to collaborate with pupils over the curriculum, and to discuss their teaching methods.

Dr Hargreaves also suggested that schools should try to develop better public relations skills to deal with the press. Some sections of the press were "wholly hostile to comprehensive education and would like to see it ended, but we should try to influence them because of their enormous influence on the public and parents," he said.

In a factory simulation organized by TVEI pupils from Biddick School, Tyne and Wear, teachers made paper aeroplanes on a conveyor belt, while others looked after quality control. Inevitably, the workers halted production by test-flying the aeroplanes, and the supervisors complained of pressure from the management and

Role play workshops produce bare feet and flights of fancy

A pair of socks and paper aeroplanes can be central to good teaching, it seems.

An arts workshop at the conference turned into a series of theatrical performances as teachers and advisers tried to recreate the power of drama, and the risks facing pupils who present it.

One teacher hastily improvised hand puppets for a Punch and Judy show with his socks. Instead of their traditional squawking and bickering, Punch and Judy reversed the audience/performer role by commenting on the audience. Could they be physicists? Or butchers?

Two other versatile teachers mimed a lesson in progress, with such stereotypes of pupils as the class clown and the class creep.

Through mime pupils got used to being looked at, as they are unable to hide behind words, the actors concluded. Having no script made children more spontaneous.

The puppeteers thought that puppet show work gave power and confidence to self-conscious pupils, who could hide behind the puppet masks, and yet enjoy the licence to say and do almost anything.

In a factory simulation organized by TVEI pupils from Biddick School, Tyne and Wear, teachers made paper aeroplanes on a conveyor belt, while others looked after quality control.

Inevitably, the workers halted production by test-flying the aeroplanes, and the supervisors complained of pressure from the management and

the shop stewards.

The factory simulation gives pupils insight into the real world, according to Mrs Ann Allan, a shop steward at a Pyrex factory. She thinks teachers must find out what work simulation is like before the pupils take part.

Other workshops looked at relations with parents, industry, the community, primary and tertiary education, reflecting the conference theme, "Sharing in education."

One session had teachers sharing their experiences from the past year. Despite the pay dispute, different teachers had run such alternative activities as bee-keeping, clog dancing, a week-long music festival for the whole school, and trips to France for two first year classes - as well as planning a whole term's curriculum round it.

The English department at Hyde School, Prestbury, had taught computer literacy to first to third years, showing pupils that computing could be applied to any curricular area, and that computer skills were not limited to specialists.

The teachers' energy, enthusiasm and commitment remained high in spite of a variety of frustrations, including the pay claim. Most disagreed with Dr David Hargreaves' pessimistic view that things would never be the same again when the dispute was over.

As one deputy head said: "Refusing to take part in development work or extra-curricular activities is cutting off your nose to spite your face. Teachers get their job satisfaction and success from the extra work they do."

Backing for no-strike agreements

A motion calling on the Government to introduce a no-strike agreement for the entire teaching profession was agreed by the conference by the surprisingly narrow majority of three votes.

The motion, which called for the deal in exchange for a guarantee that teachers' pay increases would be comparable with other professions, was agreed by 81 votes to 78 with 21 abstentions on the first count. A recount confirmed a three vote majority for it.

But Mr Colin Leicester, co-founder of PAT, which pledged never to take strike action, opposed it. "Our decision came from our consciences and it came from the heart. We don't need a carrot, dangled before us to take that step of not striking."

"We didn't need to go to the Government to say if we don't go on strike can we have something back in return. That's immoral."

Mr Bryan Round, the union's honorary secretary, said: "If we do have a no-strike agreement those who now strike would still find ways of disrupting education by withdrawal of goodwill. In any case, if you advocate this, it will mean the end of PAT."

Mr Peter Dawson, PAT's general secretary, said that the decision would mean that the union would be seeking a no-strike deal as part of the discussions on restructuring of teachers' salaries.

Numbers rise

PAT membership in England and Wales has increased by more than 33 per cent over the past year to more than 30,000, Mrs Dorothy Womack, this year's chairman of the union, told the conference.

Mrs Womack, who is head of Highfields special needs school in Ely, Cambridgeshire, added that paid up membership in Scotland had increased by more than 75 per cent - to almost 4,000.

NUT pay strategy 'part of drive to bring down Thatcher'

Teachers are in the forefront of a TUC-led campaign of public sector disruption designed to bring down the Government, Mr Peter Dawson, PAT general secretary said yesterday.

The National Union of Teachers' strategy in this year's pay battle had been devised to make a pay settlement impossible, he said in his address to the conference.

"The political strategy of those who lead the dominant teachers' union has led to do with teachers' pay and a great deal to do with political power."

Their intention is clear. They are going to carry the present dispute forward and turn 1986 and 1987 into such years of discontent as to bring defeat on the Government in the General Election which is beginning to loom over the horizon.

"Whether that would be a good or bad result seems to me not to be the point. It is the use to which teachers' pay negotiations are being put that worries me."

Mr Dawson cited, as evidence of his claim, remarks by Mr John-Pearman, Labour leader of the employers' side during the last abortive period of negotiations.

He quoted Mr Pearman at the end of the July 16 breakdown meeting as saying to the teachers: "The author-



Peter Dawson... continuing dispute

ities... cannot wish the Government out of office - they can wish, but it will not do any good, because the only way that can happen is through the ballot box and we are some time away from that opportunity, and I hope we are not going to be that far away from solving the problems of the education service, or God help us."

Mr Dawson added: "If that is the long-term strategy of what is unfolding, then I understand it, but I think it is bitterly short-sighted, because I do not believe that it will be the basis of enhancing the education service for which we are responsible."

He said that other unions had been "dragged into industrial action against their better judgement."

"As long as as February, the leader

of the second largest union Mr Fred Smith, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, was arguing in the teachers' panel that resort to disruption was likely to achieve little or nothing."

Mr Dawson continued: "So it appears my reading of events is not mine alone. Indeed, when you think about it, my interpretation of the strategy that is unfolding isn't all that surprising."

The fact that one of the imminent contenders for the chairmanship of the TUC is none other than Fred Jarvis (NUT general secretary) adds another dimension to the situation.

"The lines for a TUC-led campaign of disruption in the public sector to bring down the Government, with teachers making the running, begins to look all too likely."

Mr Jarvis commented yesterday: "Peter Dawson is behaving like a hysterical poodle yapping at shadows from the safety of the sidelines. He has constructed an absurd fantasy which NUT members and indeed most teachers will find laughable." The NUT did not want to prolong the dispute but did want a just settlement and was "not in the business of electing or toppling governments."

Mr Dawson added: "Nor do they have the power to put things right if they could. Our profession would be able to do that if properly designed general teaching council existed."

Mr Dawson said: "Nor do they have the power to put things right if they could. Our profession would be able to do that if properly designed general teaching council existed."

Mrs Jean Davies, from Shepway, proposing the motion supporting the Education of Teachers bill, said the Education of Teachers bill ignored PAT in calling together representatives of five other recognized unions to discuss the format for such a council.

He said, teachers were "publicly lectured about the state of education

ties, polytechnics, churches and the independent sector.

Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of PAT, in his address to the conference, endorsed the need for a general teaching council when he said: "It is not more central control of education we need."

"It is greater power for the teaching profession to control its own affairs, and put its own house in order: to determine standards of entry to, performance within, its own ranks; in short, to be responsible for itself and to be answerable for the consequences of that."

He said, teachers were "publicly lectured about the state of education

ties, polytechnics, churches and the independent sector.

YTS refusals directive angers I.e.a.s

by Diane Spencer



Peter Morrison

The Government's instruction to chief education officers to tell social services about young people who refuse places on the Youth Training Scheme has incensed some local authority leaders. Mr Peter Morrison, the Employment Minister, last week wrote to all CEOs reminding them of their statutory duty to inform the unemployment benefit service of those refusing, unreasonably, an opportunity of training. He said: "This information is required in connection with the determination of questions as to whether such youngsters should have their

benefit temporarily reduced." The letter goes on to stress that it does not mean that the YTS is compulsory. "Youngsters who, in the past, unreasonably refused jobs or 'approved training' were similarly liable to have their benefit reduced: the designation of the YTS as approved training is simply an extension of that long-established principle." Mr Morrison asked that his letter should be passed on to senior careers officers and staff and for confirmation that this had been done.

Mrs Nicky Harrison, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities' education committee, said: "We do not yet know which Star Chamber will decide what constitutes a 'reasonable opportunity', but we do know that this instruction to education officers makes a mockery of the Government's claim that YTS won't be compulsory." Only last week the Manpower Services Commission sent out a glossy brochure justifying the scheme. In the brochure Mr Bryan Nicholson, the chairman, stated that there should be

no coercion on any young person to take part, she said. The AMA will now be urging the minister to withdraw the instruction. "Failure to do so will undermine any value the scheme might have, and only alienate further the army of young people out of work." Leeds education authority has already said it will refuse to co-operate with the DHSS in "spying" on youngsters who refuse places. Mr Geoff Driver, chairman of the education committee described the letter as "scandalous".

Small firms offered foreign culture study

by Biddy Passmore

Aston University and five colleges have set up a commercial agency to help Midlands firms improve their export prospects. It will do this by offering a new approach to training in foreign languages, laws and customs.

The agency, called International Consultants, was launched last week by Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary. He praised it as a "pioneering" project and said: "Britain must train for prosperity."

The five colleges are Coventry Technical College, Gloucester College of Arts and Technology, Solihull College of Technology, Tamworth College of

Education, and Warley College of Technology. Several firms, including GKN and Lucas Girling, are already backing the project, which has joint funding from the Department of Education's PICK-UP programme and the Manpower Services Commission.

Mr Robert Taylor, the project manager, said it was aimed especially at small firms who might not be able to afford to put on courses of their own. Explaining that the courses would go well beyond simple language training, he said: "It's about getting your personnel to be respectful and open-minded towards other cultures."



17,000 mind their own business

by David Lister

Seventeen thousand young people are currently running more than 700 companies in schools and colleges in the Young Enterprise scheme.

The scheme enables teenagers to band together in educational institutions and run real companies retailing products for up to a year. Last week the scheme was applauded by Lord Young, the former head of the Manpower Services Commission, now a Cabinet minister with special responsibility for tackling unemployment.

Presenting prizes to the highest scorers in the Young Enterprise Achievers' Exam - which was sponsored by Chevron Petroleum (UK) - he said: "Education is only complete when it tells you about the world in which you're going to live. For too long the school system didn't tell one enough about the world of work."

Mr Derek Jackson, director general of Young Enterprise, said: "Young people are beginning to realise that they may have to go out and create jobs for themselves or face unemployment. The need has never been greater to help young people and to promote a shift from an 'employee culture' to one of enterprise in which a young person says 'what can I do to help myself'."

"It's fantastic when you think of it and the criticism levelled on young people today, that here's several thousand recognising the value of giving up their free time to gain skills directly transferable to adult life. It is also good to see over 2,000 volunteer advisers from industry and commerce giving up their time to help and an organization like Chevron supporting this examination."

In the scheme a company consists of around 20 to 25 young people. All take a hand in its formation, decide on the company name and after research to determine market needs, the product(s) or service it will trade in. They elect a board, raise capital by selling "shares" (limit £150), organise production and sell. It costs £30 to register the company with Young Enterprise headquarters. This sum is available in the form of an interest free loan. In turn, they are provided with a "company kit" containing all the manuals, documents and material needed to keep records, handle money and maintain accounts to show how they managed their business.

The participants (achievers) are advised by a team of experienced adult and volunteer managers (advisers) from industry and commerce who guide the achievers in managing their companies. At the end of the business year (around mid-May) the company goes into voluntary liquidation, reports to the shareholders and declares a dividend if they have made a profit. The two top prizewinners, who each win £150 and a trip to the United States, were Emma Sawyer from Sale and Jeffrey Davies of Bedford.



Lord Young

Green light given for NAFE cash deal

The Government has given the go-ahead to the deal thrashed out between the local authorities and the Manpower Services Commission on the funding of non-advanced further education, *Diane Spencer writes*. Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary, has written to the Commissioners accepting the agreement reached unanimously between local authority associations and the Commission after months of negotiations. This was a low key end to a stormy period which began with the publication in January 1984 of the Government's White Paper *Training for Jobs*. The White Paper gave the MSC responsibility for funding one quarter of NAFE much to the fury of the local education authorities.

Months of non-cooperation followed until the Association of Metropolitan Authorities and the Association of County Councils finally agreed to set up joint working groups with Commissioners to seek a solution. The agreement has been unanimously endorsed by the associations and the Commission during the past two months.

Under the deal each local education authority will develop a rolling three-year programme for its entire work-related NAFE after consultation with employers and the MSC. Upon agreement the Commission will release one quarter of the total funds to implement the plan and its progress will be reviewed jointly each year.

Mr Bryan Nicholson, MSC chairman, said this week: "All of this will require new levels of cooperation and trust between the MSC and I.e.s. staff at local level and over the next few months we shall be issuing guidance and holding discussions with our own and local authority staff on the way to proceed."

The deal was a "genuine collaborative effort", he stressed, adding that further discussions would be held after the summer holidays with local authorities to see if the agreement should be overseen by a national body. Mr Nicholson said it did not favour a "heavyweight bureaucracy" but cooperation at regional level was vital. He praised the new spirit of cooperation between the local authorities and the MSC but warned there was a great deal to do in a short time if plans for the 1986-87 academic year were to benefit from the new arrangements.

"This new system should achieve the greatest possible amount of responsiveness to local needs," he said.



Tom King... agreement accepted

Classroom fear of riots backlash

SOUTH AFRICA
Black staff worried that pupils may turn on them.
Jeon Hey reports

Black teachers fear that pupils could turn against them in the current riots in South Africa. Black councillors and police have had their homes burnt, their cars set alight and in some cases been killed because protesters regarded them as supporters of the apartheid state.

Teachers fear the same fate, it emerged at a recent conference of teacher organizations in Cape Town. The conference was organized as a response to the continuing crisis in black education. A black educationist, Mr Randall Petini, warned delegates that if they failed to become part of the political mainstream they too could become targets of pupil anger.

"The young people are the South Africans of the future. Shooting them down solves nothing," said Mr Petini, chairman of the Federation of the African Teachers' Association of South Africa. Teacher organizations must work with students to eradicate grievances, he said.

But Mr Petini had no illusions that the pupil unrest will end once their immediate school grievances are redressed. "The ultimate objective of the students is the dismantling of apartheid, and the end of all forms of discrimination on the basis of race, colour or sex," he said.

Meanwhile school boycotts have escalated in black townships where discontent has erupted in violence and chaos. Most schools are empty in the bustling townships of the East Rand, near Johannesburg, and the Eastern Cape where rioting is at its most



Teachers... next victims of violence?

intense. But even in quieter areas such as Natal and the Western Cape, sporadic school boycotts are becoming more and more sustained.

Black youths are in the forefront of the township turmoil and have vented their frustrations in a variety of ways, ranging from chanting freedom songs to stoning and setting fire to their schools. Daily, the newspapers report clashes between pupils and police

armed with leather whips, teargas and shotguns, in which scores of pupils have been injured and an unknown number have died.

A student leader, Mr Thediso Matona, of Soweto, told *The TES* that 107 members of the Congress of South African Students (Cosas) were recently detained in Soweto during a "peaceful" meeting. Police warned before arresting students, he said.

'Too competitive' system attacked

JAPAN

Janet Dettmer on a controversial government inquiry

Japan's schools force children to be far too competitive far too early and provide an inhibiting and stultifying education, according to a report by a government commission.

The 25-member Advisory Council on Education was appointed nearly a year ago by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone in response to widespread criticism of the country's secondary schools following a wave of school violence, bullying and vandalism.

In its report, the council acknowledges that Japanese secondary education has some merits but insists that its "main thrust has been to have students memorize information and facts" and the ability to think and judge on one's own and the development of creativity has been hampered.

The teaching unions have roundly condemned the report, on the grounds that it unfairly blames teachers. But the council has pointed out that teachers are pressurized to cram children so that they can compete for entry to the most prestigious universities.

The council believes that employers are partly to blame as they often place too much emphasis on university background.

One member of the council, Mr Naduro Amaya, has complained that some Japanese universities "have become, in effect, sub-contractors for the major companies". And his claim has received corroboration from a survey which found that, out of a sample of 10,000 managers in the country's largest corporations, nearly 30 per cent had graduated from only four of Japan's 460 universities. The four were Tokyo, Kyoto, Waseda and Keio.

The report suggests that school violence is a product of the children's frustration with their education and anxiety over the competition. Mr Michio Okamoto, the council's chairman, said: "The violence and juvenile delinquency is the immediate reason why we must have reforms."

Political commentators have criticized the report, however, for not proposing more reforms. The council only recommends that the present three-year junior high school and three-year senior high school should be merged, eliminating one set of examinations.

Cynics believe that Prime Minister Nakasone wants to receive the kudos of being identified with reform demands, without risking the unpopularity of actually implementing reforms.



Japanese schools... inhibiting and stultifying

Minister urges closer co-operation with work

SOVIET UNION

Kenneth Shaw notes a pressing need for links with managers

In a review of progress of the school reforms announced in April, 1984, the new Minister of Education, Mr S Shcherbakov, has stressed the urgency of linking schools more closely with industry and commerce.

He has expressed anxiety about levels of cooperation between educationalists and managers. By the end of 1985 there should be more than 6,000 teaching workshops on production sites for school pupils. Out of 4.5 million senior pupils in secondary schools, some 2.1 million are being taught at instruction-protection centres.

The minister states in his report that the most effective part of this type of job training is the chance to learn from the experts in the skills needed by the Soviet Union's economy.

More than 517,000 pupils are now being trained in industrial enterprises directly on-site where they face "real" conditions and handle the latest equipment and materials.

The network of production-training workshops for various skills is now handling 1,905,000 youngsters, about 42 per cent of all senior pupils. But the minister wants to arrange more training in occupational-technical schools. He emphasizes the need to produce more farm technicians, drivers, electricians and service staff for agriculture.

A continuing problem for agriculture is the rural exodus of youngsters who, after training, go to the cities. Mr Shcherbakov also mentions the need to train teachers for the new programmes stemming from the reforms, especially in science and computer courses as well as in the moral and social education programmes.

One in four teachers is now a member of the Communist Party and there is to be a reinforcement of moral education.

Each year, the teaching and lecturing force, now about three million, is supplemented by 190,000 new entrants from the universities and colleges.

But some republics are short of teachers. In Kazakh, for instance, about 6,000 teachers are needed; in Azerbaijan 2,600; in Uzbek 2,200, and in Tadzhik 1,300.

Judging by appearance

Employers want to know more about school-leavers' personalities, appearance and attitudes than about their formal academic records, according to investigations by schools in Stockton, Cleveland.

One hundred and fifty local firms have been asked their views on school reports by two schools which are due to amalgamate next term.

Mr Richard Nicholson, head of Sheraton School, which is to merge with The Grange School, said the amalgamation was seen as a chance to revamp school records to give employers and parents the information they wanted.

Pledge for leavers

Every school-leaver should be entitled to education and training opportunities for at least two years after leaving the classroom, the TUC conference in September will be told.

In a motion to the conference, the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education call for a two-year scheme giving substantial off-the-job training and education.

However, it urges the TUC to note that the Government is planning to extend the Youth Training Scheme to two years at a time when the present scheme is inadequately funded and when there are still substantial problems with the use of trainees by firms as a form of job substitution.

FE course numbers rise by 5%

Numbers of students on further education courses increased by 5 per cent between 1982 and 1983, the latest Government statistics show.

The biggest increase was in part-time courses of 90,000 (7 per cent) to 1,407,000, largely due to the Youth Training Scheme. Adult education and youth centre enrolments accounted for a 6 per cent increase - 94,000 to 1,628,000 - the highest since 1979.

However, if enrolments by YTS students are discounted, the growth in numbers was only 1 per cent with the increase confined mainly to evening only courses.

The number of women taking non-advanced courses increased by 6 per cent to 837,000, while the figure for men was 741,000, an increase of 4 per cent. Excluding YTS, these show a 2 per cent decrease for men (to 677,000) and a 2 per cent increase for women (to 794,000).

YTS enrolments in FE colleges increased from 32,000 in 1982 to 104,000 in 1983. The largest increase was on part-time day release from 6,000 in 1982 to 60,000 in 1983.

Statistics of further education students in England - November 1983 Statistical Bulletin, DES, Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1 7PH

What IT should tell girls

The importance of getting bright schoolgirls interested in careers in information technology is stressed in the final report from an inter-departmental Government committee, published last week.

Computer companies should send out a more positive message to them, it says, for instance by organizing presentations to schools featuring female as well as male graduates and technicians.

"The very flexibility of information technology, and the fact that IT systems make it possible to work from home, means that it is well-suited for women," the report states.

As for the schools themselves, they

should create an atmosphere in which more bright pupils, both male and female, pursue maths, science and technology to an advanced level. The committee underlines the critical importance of remedying teacher shortages to achieve this aim.

The committee, chaired by Mr John Butcher, junior trade and industry minister, also recommends that companies should encourage the development of multidisciplinary degree courses including an IT element and should pool resources to sponsor them.

Some universities and polytechnics might like to follow the example of

those who have organized their departments on a broader basis than that of traditional engineering and scientific disciplines, it suggests.

Companies often say they need honours graduates when a more modest level of qualification would suffice, the report says. It recommends that the IT Skills Agency should identify what level of skills companies actually need by asking them to take a harder look at their present and future skill levels.

"Unless this is done," the committee says, "the education system will be unable to provide people with the right skills at the right time."

Better deal wanted for handicapped

Unemployment among disabled people is twice the overall national rate, Susan Lonsdale, of the Southbank Polytechnic said last week at a conference on training for Londoners with disabilities.

Job hunting may be an obstacle course for many school-leavers, but people who have not been able to acquire further education or other skills suffer an extra handicap. Nor is it helpful that even the statutory quota of 3 per cent disabled staff for a firm employing more than 20 is not always observed. Prosecutions for non-com-

pliance have dropped by half since 1960.

The commitment of the Greater London Council to training for the disabled is part of its equal opportunities policy. Some 8 per cent of the 20,000 employees at County Hall are disabled. Launching the GLC's new policy, *The employment and training of people with disabilities*, Ken Livingstone pointed out how much had changed since the beginning of his administration when County Hall had only one wheelchair ramp.

He mentioned the GLC's dial-a-ride and taxi card scheme for disabled people, the setting up of the Disabled Resource Scheme, and the funding of surveys on mental health.

Representatives of training, trade unions and organizations for specific handicaps attended the conference. Provision of training schemes was reviewed, and a resolution was passed stressing the importance of good training and education funding, and questioning the plans for a two-year YTS without those components.

Parents told to have much greater say

AUSTRALIA

A new project for running schools.
Luis Garcia reports

Parents are to be encouraged to become directly involved in the running of Australian schools.

A new project, to be run by the Commonwealth Schools Commission, consists of a series of free parent seminars to be run in conjunction with groups like the National Federation of School Community Organizations (Fosco) and the Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations.

The seminars will explain what rights parents have and how to use them.

According to the project coordinator, Ms Carolyn Grenville, Australian parents have been traditionally used by the educational authorities to carry out fairly menial, voluntary jobs, like running the school's canteen, organizing annual fairs and raising funds for equipment and books.

In most states, the rights of parents to intervene in the running of their schools tend to be limited to areas such as canteen, uniforms, fees, religious classes and controversial courses, including sex education.

But while the school gates have remained firmly shut to parent involvement Ms Grenville points to recent developments in Victoria and South Australia where parents and, some students, have been given certain powers to set down policies on what is taught at the school.

In Victoria, there is even a pilot project which allows parents and students to have a say, albeit limited, in the selection of principals and senior staff.

Ms Grenville said there were many reasons for this change; one of them being that it is more difficult for school leavers to find jobs unless they have good educational qualifications.

"This has led to more parents taking a direct interest in the type of courses being taught at school and the progress, or lack of, of their children. Research has been done overseas and more recently in Australia which shows that children whose parents are involved in their education and in the way the school is run tend to do better at school," she said.

From personal experience, I know of cases where once the parents became involved, the school turns into a happier place, the children do better and morale is also better. Teachers have known this for years."

Ms Grenville said many teachers and principals opposed parent involvement in areas such as curriculum, and the hiring and firing of staff, mostly because they felt threatened.

"We have to realize, however, that parents are taxpayers and in a way they own the schools. Therefore, they have a right to have a say in how the schools are run," she said.

"I think parents should have more rights because they have so much to offer: after all, they are experts on their own children."

'Reform or go' call on matriculation

FINLAND

Donald Fields reports on an analysis of secondary exams

If Finland's matriculation examination cannot be completely overhauled to bring it into line with the technological society it should be scrapped, the director-general of the National Board of Education has concluded.

Mr Eikki Aho's outspoken recommendation was contained in a pessimistic analysis of the schooling offered in *gymnasiums* - the senior secondary schools roughly equivalent of the British sixth-form.

In Finland, about half the pupils go on to enter *gymnasiums*. About two-thirds of them subsequently enter vocational colleges; only one-third are enrolled by universities.

Mr Aho, a Social Democrat in Finland's highly-politicized civil service, has long advocated a system of education related to the "real world". He believes the *gymnasiums*, because they are committed to steering the charges through the matriculation

exam, are falling down on this score. One example is language studies. According to Mr Aho: "Languages are a great help in an internationalist world, but their significance remains minor if one has no thoughts or opinions to convey... one studies for the examinations, not for life."

As part of the work of a broad-based committee of inquiry, the Board has asked teachers for their views on how the examination affects education in the *gymnasiums*, and whether it is an obstacle to further development. The committee will gather data during the forthcoming school year.

OVERSEAS

Young boat people show their talent for survival

UNITED STATES

Bill Norris looks at classroom successes among the Vietnamese

They fled their country in overcrowded, unseaworthy boats. Many perished in storms - many others were murdered, robbed, or raped by pirates. Now the children of the Vietnamese boat people, who lived to reach the promised land of the United States, are showing that they have more than a talent for survival. They have talent.

A survey by the University of Michigan on the sons and daughters of Southeast Asian refugees in Boston, Chicago, Seattle, Houston, and Orange County, California, shows that they are doing far better academically than their American peers. They have overcome language barriers, poverty and culture shock, to record outstanding results in their school tests.

More than a quarter of the 355 students reviewed had a grade point average in the topmost "A" range, while more than half maintained a "B" average. In national achievement tests, one third of the children were placed in the top 30 per cent.

The mathematics scores were the most impressive. In these tests, 44 per cent achieved a perfect grade, with the group as a whole scoring three times higher than the national average. And this, in spite of the fact that most attend the much-maligned inner city public schools where scholastic achievement is generally low.

The directors of the study, Nathan Caplan and John Whitmore, take pains to emphasize that the exceptional level of achievement is not due to a



Vietnamese refugees: education is their top priority

few remarkable children, but is spread over the refugees as a whole. Nor do they expect this to be the end of the story. "We can expect them to do even better in the future," they predict.

"The superior academic achievement already recorded reflects a balance between very high measures in maths and science and comparatively low scores in course material which requires English language skills. As literacy skills improve, it is reasonable to expect that grades will also improve in the other courses."

Caplan and Whitmore attribute the success of the boat children to a merging of the family values they brought with them and their awareness of the opportunities for success in America. Almost all the refugee families interviewed put educational achievement at the top of their priorities in life, followed by a cohesive family and a belief in the value of hard work. They were far less interested in seeking fun and excitement, or material possessions.

They found one other important factor: Most parents had read to their children before they reached school

age, and it was these children who were most successful. It seemed to make little difference whether the reading was in English or in their native language.

In a parallel study, which covered more than 4,000 adults and 2,615 children, the Michigan researchers found that although the boat people had arrived in the middle of an economic recession, they had lost no time in climbing out of the poverty trap.

Though half the families surveyed were still below the official poverty level income of \$800 a month for a family of four, those who had been in the US for three years were earning a monthly average of \$1,200, and those admitted four years ago were getting \$1,600.

Yet most were still involved in menial work and not employing the skills learned in their own country: the increased income came from more working members of the family. Hence the importance attached by the refugees to education. They see it as the way out of a succession of dead-end jobs, and the children have responded in full measure.

Darwin clears another legal hurdle Nipping the drug threat in the bud

After a legal battle lasting four years, the last law in the United States which requires public schools to teach the biblical theory of creation alongside the evolution of species has been struck down.

The 5th US Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled that a Louisiana statute passed in 1981 was in violation of the First Amendment to the US Constitution, which prohibits any government promotion of religion.

"The Act's intended effect is to discredit evolution by counterbalancing its teaching at every turn with the teaching of creationism, a religious belief", the judges said.

The American Civil Liberties Union, which brought the case on behalf of parents and teachers, is delighted. Ms Martha Kegel, executive director of the Louisiana ACLU, said: "We finally have a decision that puts the creation law out of its four-year misery. I think this decision completely discredits the movement to force the teaching of creationism in the public schools."

Her jubilation may be premature. The state is still considering whether to appeal to the US Supreme Court. But recent First Amendment decisions by that body make it unlikely that such a move would succeed.

And in many parts of the US, especially in the "Bible Belt", there is still pressure on teachers and school boards not to teach the Darwinian theory, or to teach creationism as scientific fact.

Ms Barbara Parker, education policy director for the liberal pressure group People for the American Way, warns: "I don't think the battle is won. I think there will be other attempts to pass state and local laws mandating the teaching of creationism."

But for the moment, Charles Darwin seems to have won the day.

America misdirected its drugs prevention emphasis 15 years ago and now Britain is falling into the same trap, according to Mr Rick Little, founder of the Quest organization established to offer American teenagers an alternative to the drug scene.

By concentrating on heroin, little attention was paid to the entry drugs such as solvents and cannabis, he says.

The result of that failure in the US is that younger children get involved with drugs - the average age at which cannabis is first used is 11 years eight months. In the US, there are more than 15 million teenage cannabis smokers.

The price of cocaine, also a scourge in American high schools, has dropped this year from \$125 to \$65 a gramme and the University of Michigan has revealed a 40 per cent increase in its consumption by high school students.

A broader approach was advocated by the recent International Youth Forum on Alcohol and Drug Addiction in Cardiff, attended by 100 youngsters from 10 countries.

Mr Little says the important aspect of the forum was that it was organized by young people to help young people. Self-help schemes are encouraged by Quest, the Canadian Toe Alpha project and REACH America.

The three groups emphasize early preventive education, with Quest devising schemes for 10 to 14-year-olds.

"The groups are convinced that peer-to-peer approach works, and Mr Little says that areas which implement these projects such as Missouri, Indiana and Connecticut, have seen a reduction in the number of cannabis users.

Similar strategies to discourage teenage drug abuse are likely to be introduced to Britain this autumn when Quest programmes will be piloted in six local authorities.

Iola Smith

LETTERS

Musical challenge

Sir - In his comments on my letter "Out of Tune", TES, July 19, Michael Church describes the HMI's Curriculum Matters paper on music as "technically overambitious and philosophically naive". These seem to me to be rather sweeping judgements.

The objectives suggested for the period up to the age of 7, 11, 14 and 16 are individually practicable and appropriate for any pupils concerned who are fortunate enough to be well taught.

Those for 16-year-olds correspond to the skills and experiences which will be demanded in the GCSE examination as a result of the National Criteria which were approved only after a substantial consultative exercise in which teachers were involved. The other objectives build up to this level in a rational way.

Certainly, many teachers, probably the majority, will find the HMI's objectives difficult to meet at present primary and secondary levels at present. This doesn't make the objectives wrong, but it does pose an enormous challenge not only to teachers but also to those who support them and those who train them. I believe HMI were right to make such a challenge. We have produced a somewhat similar paper in Berkshire as part of a series of curriculum guidelines drawn up by making parties of teachers. However, we did stress that our ideas were a goal to work towards rather than a reflection of existing practice.

Anyone misguided enough to dismiss *Little Red Riding Hood* as "philosophically naive" could expect to be laughed at. It is not a philosophical document, even though it may have interesting implications of a philosophical nature. The same is true of the HMI paper which, as I read it, implies clearly enough some of the philosophical thrusts of the Gulbenkian report *The Arts in Schools*. Mr Church says he has given his "falsom endorsement" to this document. I'm surprised he can't see the connection between the two.

Mr Church describes the APU "Aesthetic Development" paper as "untenable". Certainly it seems to me earned few friends but it does make a highly significant examination of the nature of objectivity. This is badly needed and makes a valuable contribution to the current rethinking of the way we make assessments in music education. Mr Church's car could have been closer to the ground on this one.

HAMISH PRESTON
Adviser responsible for Music
Shire Hall
Berkshire

Why CDT staff are deciding it's time to quit

Sir - Having just finished the most demanding, depressing, and demoralizing year since joining the teaching profession 12 years ago, I feel duty bound to make you aware of some of the effects the Government's attitude is having on teachers in general and my own subject area in particular.

During the past four years as head of craft, design and technology I have regularly been short of staff because of the lack of qualified teachers in my subject area. As a progressive department I have been able to accept as a compliment the fact that the shortages have occurred because of the promotion of my colleagues to posts of responsibility in other schools. However, when the situation means, as during the last two terms, that we are forced to struggle on with one member of the department short it is obvious that both the staff and pupils suffer.

The effects of the poor salary, lack of esteem and the constant criticism of teachers is leading to a growing depletion of high quality teaching staff in all areas and in particular in CDT. On a local level, the first instance I was aware of was an ex-colleague from a school in Ware leaving last year from a Scale 2 post to start his own business. At Easter this year another colleague left a Scale 3 post in Welwyn Garden City to join the Fire Service. This summer the head of department at a school in Waltham Cross has left to

start his own business, and the Scale 1 and Scale 2 teachers from another local school have both resigned - one without employment and the other to start in industry in October on a salary £1,500 more than he was earning in teaching. Another colleague is resigning his Scale 3 post from a school in Chesham to join a business where he will be earning £15,000 plus a company car, more than double his present salary.

The above examples are taken from an area less than 10 miles radius from where I work. I wish that I could say that these staff were the kind of people the profession could do without but unfortunately that is not the case. My knowledge of them is because of my vast extra-curricular activities in CDT and the fact that they too have been involved in the hundreds of hours of unpaid unrecognized work dedicated to teachers put in every year. If this kind of exodus is being repeated elsewhere, and I have no reason to believe that Hertfordshire is a special case, then the implications are too dramatic to ignore.

I wish that this was the end of the story. Unfortunately, at the other end of the profession even worse problems exist. It has been almost impossible to appoint Scale 1 teachers in our area direct from college because so few students are available. I can name three local schools which have been unable to fill posts for September. I am



Unfortunately, it is often the best teachers who vote with their feet.

informed that all of the Honours graduates leaving Loughborough this year who should have started teaching careers in September have accepted posts in industry. The final blow was that the best student I have had the privilege to teach has just turned down a CDT degree course at Brunel and taken a post in industry earning only £300 a year less than he would be getting if he had just finished his time at university.

It has been suggested that it is this Government's policy to dismantle the state education system. If this is so I must congratulate them on their efforts so far. Unfortunately it is the best teachers who are voting in increasing numbers with their feet. The snowball is gathering momentum and unless some dramatic action is taken very soon I fear it will be too late. Is it any wonder that this situation

exists? On the same page of the *Daily Telegraph* July 18 when teachers are condemned for not accepting 6.06 per cent an article states wages have risen by 8.8 per cent on average. This kind of difference has happened regularly over the last few years and when you add to this the recently announced increases for top civil servants the reasons become obvious. While I am not against assessment, I feel that teachers are grossly underpaid for the work they undertake. Unless recognition of this is given in the very near future I fear that there may be very few teachers left to assess.

KEITH R. BREACH
The John Warner School
Stanstead Road
Hoddeston
Herts

pupils so that (take note those who have knowledge of mathematics) 90 per cent of pupils can reach an average standard - so I have to make do with an offer of 6.06 per cent.

Is there a moral here somewhere?

J BATES
Headmaster
Archers Court Secondary School
Whitfield
Dover

Letters for publication should be kept as brief as possible and typed on one side of the paper only. The Editor reserves the right to cut or amend them.

Spoils of war

Sir - If I were a general, charged ultimately perhaps with the training of men to kill people, or involved with decisions which could result in the unleashing of weapons to kill millions, to lay waste to vast areas and to poison the atmosphere of the world for hundreds of years, then I would be receiving a rise in salary of 17.6 per cent.

Unfortunately, I am a teacher, charged with the training of young minds, asked by society to heal inter-racial conflicts, told to ensure that social awareness is raised and delinquency is diminished, expected to achieve wonders with ill-motivated

credible, emanating from the Government responsible for the education of our whole nation.

The needs of 90 per cent of the children and parents in this country are treated with contempt, as are the efforts of an overloaded, overworked teaching force.

Only the top 10 per cent matter presumably until votes are needed. I didn't believe that this could be the Prime Minister's philosophy but she is making it crystal clear now.

P P H RYAN
Headmaster
Ingram High School for Boys
Springfield Road
Thornhill Heath
Surrey

Incredible insult

Sir - I am the headmaster of a small comprehensive school in the London borough of Croydon. At the end of a more than usually demanding term, coping with now curriculum, social problems and all the things that teachers have to do, my totally exhausted staff, who have stood by their pupils throughout the salary dispute but whose morale is inevitably slumping, not merely from overstrain but even more from the apparent lack of interest and appreciation of their efforts by the Government, have within 24 hours been told that there's ample money for generals and others and that more money may be found for direct grant education. The message is incredible.

Mr Church describes the APU "Aesthetic Development" paper as "untenable". Certainly it seems to me earned few friends but it does make a highly significant examination of the nature of objectivity. This is badly needed and makes a valuable contribution to the current rethinking of the way we make assessments in music education. Mr Church's car could have been closer to the ground on this one.

Proficiency books

Sir - I should like to express my serious concern at your review "Great Goal in the Sky" (June 28). My concern is two-fold. First, as author of one of the books in question, *Focus on Proficiency*, I am naturally extremely unhappy to find it dismissed in such a cavalier fashion. Secondly, as head of the EFL section at a college of FE, I find the review as a whole not only unhelpful to me in my job of assessing new titles, but also actually misleading.

It must be inferred that the reviewer, Paddy Bostock, has a considerable sympathy towards the proficiency examination. There are two points to be made here. In the first place, it is only fair that such a significant underlying perspective should be made clear at the outset so that the reader can set subsequent comments in their proper context. Secondly, whatever Mr Bostock feels about the Cambridge examinations, they remain an important goal for very large numbers of students.

Much as Mr Bostock would seem to want proficiency teachers to eschew published courses and devise materials of their own from wordier (in his view) sources, he must surely realize that this is as unrealistic for the majority of teachers as it would be to expect them to teach without the aid of published materials. This being the case, teachers will continue to work with and it is not unreasonable, I should have thought, for them to look for unbiased and informative reviews in journals such as the TES.

In the event, this year's review of what are the first new proficiency books for some time is very remote from fair appraisal. I find much of the "review" a misrepresentation and several of the remarks actually offensive. Surely Mr Bostock could have investigated the book further than the contents page and seen that the topics he quoted so disparagingly are no more than umbrella headings for material which is very far from bland?

As to the "bizarre machines" he might have noted the integral relationship of that particular activity to what precedes and what follows it. Perhaps, too, he might try it in context with a class and judge it accordingly.

I pass on to my second area of complaint. It seemed to me that this review represented an extraordinary distortion of the reviewer's role - a near-vitriolic attack on the authors and publishers concerned, in fact.

As it happens, the four books in question have been under discussion in my department recently. Though I have an obvious interest in the case of the new proficiency review to outline naturally expected characteristics, their published courses and device materials of their own from wordier (in his view) sources, he must surely realize that this is as unrealistic for the majority of teachers as it would be to expect them to teach without the aid of published materials. This being the case, teachers will continue to work with and it is not unreasonable, I should have thought, for them to look for unbiased and informative reviews in journals such as the TES.

SUE O'CONNELL
44 Royal York Crescent
Clifton
Bristol

Question evaded

Sir - Simon Donaldson (TES, July 12) dodged the question I threw out (TES, June 14): "Why did the Conservative share of the vote in the May county council elections go up in Salisbury whilst it dropped dramatically in the rest of Wiltshire?"

Instead, he offered a farrago of statistics, all correct but highly irrelevant. His argument, which attempted to estimate support for comprehensivization in Salisbury from the May voting figures, would only be valid if the following three propositions were true:

- 1 The election in Salisbury had nothing to do with the standing of the Government and was fought entirely on the single issue of selective schools.
- 2 All Labour/Alliance voters supported a comprehensive-school-only policy.
- 3 The substantial number of votes cast for Raters' Association and Independent candidates could be ignored.

The first and third propositions are patent nonsense. The second is an even bigger nonsense, but it may be less obvious to those who are unaware of the results of the MORI poll in March 1981 which showed that no fewer than 61 per cent of those inclined to support the new SDP party wanted grammar schools brought back.

FRED NAYLOR
County Councillor
Wiltshire CC

RSA DIPLOMA IN COMMUNITY LANGUAGES

Places are available on this new one-year Course starting in September, 1985.

The purpose of the Course is to provide appropriate training in the efficient teaching of Community Languages (No languages barred, but in the first year, we would seek to concentrate on Hindi, Panjabi, Urdu, Tamil and Gujarati).

This one-day a week (to be held on Wednesdays) Course would be based at the In-Service Training Centre, Kilton Road, Farnham, E13. Handwritten applications from graduates in appropriate languages, may be addressed to the Director of Education and marked for Dr. M. Aggarwal's attention.

Closing date for applications to reach my office will be 10th August, 1985 and interviews are expected to be held before the end of August. For further information please contact: The Director of Education, Education Offices, 379/383 High Street, Stratford, E.15. Tel. 011-534 4545.

LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM

(0837)

LETTERS

Lack of will

Sir - Margaret Tansley is rightly worried about nursery education in Chislehurst. Yet she is not alone in worrying about the attitude of the Government to under-fives provision. The point is not that the DES is unwavering in the value of nursery education - it surely cannot fail to know of such work as the High Scope scheme in the USA and the results coming from Bristol University, both reported in your paper as well as Plowden and Margaret Thatcher's commitment in the 1970s - what is lacking is political will.

I hope that the political will of the opposition parties enables them to uphold their promises on the under-fives.

NICK MOON
145 Bedford Hill
London SW12

Votes can save nurseries

Sir - Margaret Tansley (Letters, July 19) may be interested to know that the "DES recommended target for 1982 to provide nursery places for 90 per cent of four-year-olds and 50 per cent of three-year-olds" was a forecast made by none other than Mrs Thatcher (as Education Secretary) in the White Paper of 1972.

Any hope, however, that the latter will use her influence to persuade the DES to "recognize the need to make nursery education statutory" has a remote possibility of realization.

Section 24(2) of the Conservative 1980 Education Act states that "a local education authority shall not by virtue of Section 8(1)(a) of the Education Act 1944 be under any duty in respect of

junior pupils who have not attained the age of five years . . ."

The Government has taken the opposite step to that proposed by Margaret Tansley and has reduced the status of nursery education from a "duty" to a "power". This permits i.e.s to continue to have nursery schools but, because no central funding will be provided (since there is no statutory duty), finance must be found from existing resources. Clearly, where i.e.s choose to provide nursery schooling, some other part of their educational service inevitably must suffer.

These covert cuts are part and parcel of this Government's fixation with reducing the public sector borrowing requirement so that more money is available to finance its priorities: (inter alia) nuclear weaponry, pay rises for the "top people" in the judiciary and military, and a reduction in direct taxation in time for the next General Election.

I suggest to Margaret Tansley that her opinion needs to be expressed through the ballot box in that election, and not to an Administration which, as its onslaught on nursery schooling demonstrates, is actively dismantling the state system of education.

STANLEY BARRACLOUGH
Cockley Hall School
Lancaster

Best for all

Sir - Having heard a report of the Prime Minister's Channel 4 interview, I felt constrained to write immediately to our local education authority to ask how we might achieve the direct grant status she outlined.

We built all the criteria in that our parents want the best, they give enormous and freely to the school, and our staff are anxious to improve standards if only they could have the resources to do it. Indeed, the overwhelming majority of parents and teachers want the best for their children. At a time when I have to resort to begging to maintain our A level science courses, the suggestion that county schools wish to provide anything other than the highest standards for pupils is ludicrous. What we must strive to achieve the highest standards for all pupils, not limit our good intentions to a few.

M B CADDY
Headmaster
Eggbuckland School
Westcott Close
Eggbuckland
Plymouth



Pictorial proof

Sir - I was a little surprised to read in your article on the Mini Bass project (TES, July 5) that there were no girls who were members of the Bass Club - particularly as you printed a photograph of my daughter playing her bass at the club!

I would like to correct the comment that only boys are members - my daughter was a founder member and is very proud of her bass. What is more, she is not Mrs Emery's only girl student and I know of several little girls who would love to have the opportunity mine has of playing the bass. It is just simply not true that the instrument falls to appeal to girls, a quick glance round many orchestras will produce many women players and, as mentioned in a different article in the TES, women tend to be relegated to strings (because, as one string teacher friend of mine pointed out, women do not have families to support, and if they did not do so on the average earnings of a string player) as men want, and get, the more lucrative positions.

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مكتبة الأصل

Reading by reading?

MARY GREENING

I read with interest the article entitled "Learning to read just by reading" (TES, July 5). This described the successful implementation in the classroom of an approach which encourages children to learn to read by sharing books with teachers and parents.

Readers may be interested to know that a shared reading approach has been used extensively with parents and primary age children in Cleveland.

In recent years, there has been an increasing emphasis on the vital part that parents have to play in aiding their children's reading development. When participating in reading projects, parents are usually asked to adopt a teaching role which they often find to be difficult and stressful.

Shared reading has the advantage of aiding parents to help their children's reading in a way which complements the parental role. A fundamental aim of the shared reading approach is to place parental involvement with reading firmly within the context of everyday activities which families experience together.

Briefly, shared reading consists of parent and child reading aloud together from a book of the child's own choice. The parent regulates the tempo of the reading to enable the child to keep pace. No notice is taken of the child's mistakes or omissions and the parent continues to read with the child even when the child can manage only a few words of the next text.

Essentially, shared reading is a modelling technique which enables the parent to provide an instant and effective mode of reading for the child. The shared reading method provides a bridge between the adult reading to the child and the child becoming a fluent, independent reader.

During this transitional stage of reading development, it is crucial that the child is provided with effective support in order to maximize the

acquisition of reading skills and to minimize failure.

The benefits of using a shared reading approach are many. It has been found that children's reading ages have been raised as a result and that their attitude to reading has improved.

Parents enjoy using the method, find it easy to put into practice and are able to read with their child in a way which is free of stress.

Shared reading emphasises the enjoyment of reading and allows children including very inexperienced readers the freedom to choose their own books. Children find this free choice highly motivating and become much more discriminating when choosing books.

Shared reading enables parents to be involved in their children's learning in a way which does not conflict with the work of the school. Projects are easy to organize as a minimum of time is required for supervision and monitoring. Class teachers can run their own projects for parents without the help of support agencies and a video film and teachers manual has been produced for this purpose.



Enthusiastic readers at Brewster Infant School, Peterborough.

The shared reading package is available from The Education Development Centre, Old Northgate School, Wilton Lane, Guisborough, Cleveland

TS14 6JA. Cost £10 inc p&p.

Mary Greening is an educational psychologist in Cleveland.

Fish and the mainstream

PAT FITTON

Peter Newell's article (TES, July 12) on the Fish Report, and the feature in the same issue on conductive education, raise some of the contradictory and complex issues involved in considering the integration of children with special needs.

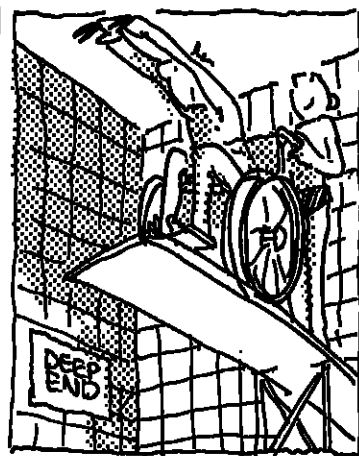
It is largely due to the work of Peter Newell and others who have campaigned tirelessly for integration that it has become the acceptable aim. It is

vital, however, that two issues are clear to all involved in the process of integration.

The first of these is the question of clear definitions. Many models of integration exist at present. Is there an ideal model? Is social integration acceptable as an aim for some children, where curricular integration seems difficult or impossible?

Is it all or nothing, must children be fully integrated in the mainstream school in all respects, or is there some virtue in seeing a continuum of integration patterns, with partial integration as an acceptable aim for some?

The second issue is the understanding of the nature and importance of the special needs themselves. These may be for back-up services and facilities to maintain physical well-being, for example physiotherapy, special toilet



hearing impaired or partially sighted child, or for a curriculum broken down into small learning stages.

There is no contradiction in providing for special needs of many kinds, and in the child being in the mainstream environment as much as possible.

Indeed, if they are not provided, the handicapped child may be denied access to part of the curriculum; consider ease of access by wheelchair to the average science bench and equipment.

The child may also be denied access to the physical environment, for example if a hotel were not provided for entry to a swimming pool. Surely Peter Newell, in questioning the need for any special schools, was not denying the need for specialist provision, which for some children may be for much of their school day.

It is important to be precise on this issue, or fear and misunderstanding on the part of parents, professionals and not least the children themselves, may prevent development of integration.

The article on conductive education underlines this issue for me, raising existing possibilities of an intensive approach to help children to overcome their physical disabilities.

The Hungarian approach provides a challenging contrast to the traditional management of physical handicap in this country through the use of equipment and now of technological aids to manage the disability.

However, the implications might be more segregation for a period of time, not less. The criterion would surely be the likely eventual greater independence of the child.

We must continue to explore new ways of helping handicapped children to develop. We must at the same time work for integration of all children with special needs at all possible levels.

Peter Newell surely does not mean that it is discriminatory to identify resources for those needs, and to press for them to be provided if integration is to have a chance of success.

Real discrimination would be a failure to provide those resources, either because of a facile view of the nature of handicap and special needs, or because of meanness on the part of the providing authority.

The deadliest form of discrimination of all would be the neglect of the developmental and other needs of some children, despite their physical presence in the mainstream.

Pat Fitton is Deputy Head in a Haringey comprehensive school, with responsibility for the integration scheme there. She is also the parent of a young woman with severe multiple handicaps.

Misleading adverts

SALLY WINTER

I read with interest Tony Evans' short article (TES, July 12) on the need for more attention to be given to training student teachers in making effective job applications.

While I agree that it is necessary for students to be instructed in the methods of presentation most likely to help them obtain a place on shortlists, I would like to point out that it is the whole selection procedure which needs overhauling.

Applicants often find that the advertisements describing the posts available are at best misleading and at worst totally inaccurate.

A teacher I spoke to recently had believed herself to be shortlisted for a Special Education post which required some knowledge of art - it became clear in her interview that the position actually involved teaching art to examination standard, and no special education classes at all.

One can only wonder at the value of continuing to go ahead and choose a candidate under those circumstances. Every teacher already in a job applying for a new post in the following form is familiar with the phrase "Required in September or as soon as possible thereafter" and is equally aware that the last six words are more force of habit than genuine intent.

The shortcomings of the interview as a final method of selection are obvious by the number of successful interviewees who become failures in their jobs, and this applies equally outside teaching as it does within.

However, in industry it is usual for shortlisted applicants to be sent a description of the format of the interview, a list of those interviewing, and the whole procedure to take several hours if not days. In teacher interviews it is quite common for the interview to last only 15 minutes, and for the format to be known only when the applicant steps through the door of the interview room.

As local authorities vary quite considerably in their interview procedures it can take several unsuccessful and painful attempts before the interviewee has managed to experience each different approach.

It is also unacceptable in industry that totally unqualified or inexperienced persons should appoint staff - yet in teaching the majority of interviewers are school governors, whose knowledge of educational theory and practice is often very meagre.

It is a standard teaching joke to recount the tale of the interviewee who, having described his degree course in some detail, was then asked by an aged governor from the corner of the room, "Yes, but 'ave 'ee got any O levels?"

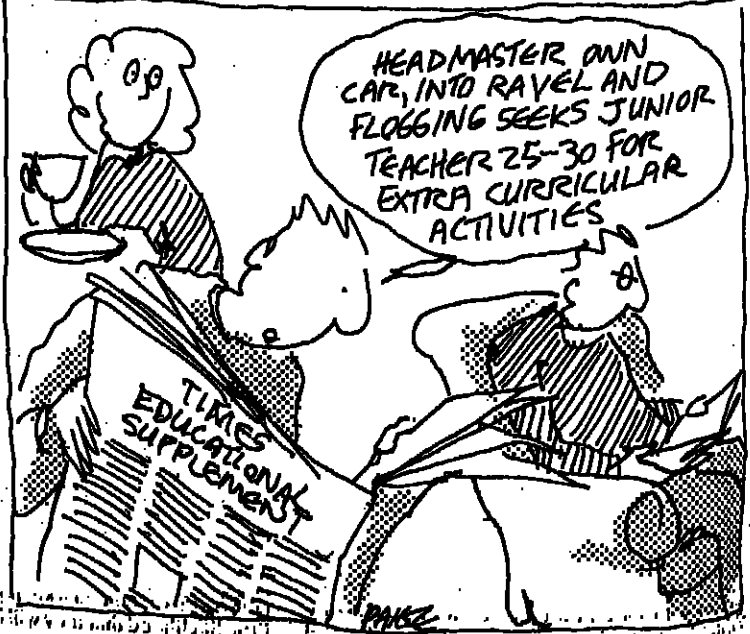
Interviews would also be a more profitable exercise if one could rely on the panel to have had some training in interviewing - I once attended an interview in which none, out of the 16 people present, was introduced; four of them sat behind me - one of whom had to be gently woken up at the end. Each question was read from a written sheet and no comments were made on any aspect of my replies.

Interviewing, whether for the purpose of selecting personnel, counselling or simply obtaining information, is a skill. A skill which can, and should, be learned by those who use the interview as a major part of their selection procedure.

Finally, I think we are all familiar with the applicant who travels several miles in eager anticipation of a first teaching post, only to find that it is obvious to everyone there that the supply teacher currently doing the job is going to be the panel's choice. Local authorities have been paying lip service to the requirement to advertise posts for years, but it should not be too much to ask that they do not genuinely consider everyone whom they place on the shortlist.

I would like to see a serious examination of the procedures for the selection of all staff in education, because without it Mr Evans' students will still end up in a lottery, no matter how carefully they have planned their side of the system.

Sally Winter is teacher-in-charge of the diagnostic and assessment unit at Penthos School, Ystradgynlais, Powsy.



Every which way but teaching

Advertisements for physics teachers now produce hardly any acceptable applicants, Norman Thompson reports.

Abundant evidence of the acute and long-standing shortage of physics teachers in our secondary schools can be found in the Royal Society report *Shortage of Physics Teachers 1981*. The Institute of Physics, greatly concerned at this threat to a vital section of the country's scientific and technological future, sent a short questionnaire to schools which have advertised for a physics teacher in *The Times Educational Supplement* since the beginning of the year. Some 270 replies have been received, representing a response rate of about 70 per cent.

For Scale 1 and 2 posts, applications number zero to ten, the average being about six. In three or four cases where 30 or more applications had been received, the post advertised was a teacher of "physical science", and comment from the head indicated that the majority of the applications were from chemists. Advertisements for biologists were said to produce an even bigger response - 80 was mentioned in one case. Clearly it is in physics (and possibly mathematics) that the problem is acute.

The questionnaire asked how many applications were "worth considering". The answer was, on average, less than half. In a large number of cases, after further consideration and interview, many of these were found to be unsatisfactory.

Excluding posts for which a decision was pending, it was found that in about one-quarter of the cases (58 posts) it had not been possible to make an appointment, owing to lack of a single suitable applicant who was willing to accept.

Some of the schools proposed to re-advertise; the others were proposing to patch up some kind of a programme using existing unqualified and part-time staff, to curtail the amount of physics taught or even, in one or two cases, to remove physics from the curriculum.

Of the appointments made, almost all were graduates, but not necessarily in physics. About 20 per cent and possibly more (details were not always given) were in other subjects, including engineering, chemistry, biology, agricultural science, textile chemistry and psychology. In several cases, the head was apprehensive about the success of the appointment he had felt obliged to make, *faut de mieux*.

It is significant that the situation with the more senior posts is considerably better. The advertisements for Scale 3, and higher, posts attracted an average of 18 applications each, the range being from 5 to 40; but, even of these, only about 40 per cent were thought "worth considering". Of the 43 posts, all but three had been filled, with one decision pending; only two of the appointees were expressly stated to be non-physicists one an engineer and the other a biologist who had taken a re-training course.

About 64 per cent of the vacancies had arisen through the normal evolutionary processes of any labour force: personal or domestic reasons, transfers, promotions, or retirements. As for the rest, 14 per cent were new posts, mainly the result of an increased provision of physics and electronics teaching, to satisfy pupil demand. The remaining 22 per cent were caused by the previous holder ceasing to be a physics teacher. About 10 per cent were moving into other posts in the general field of education, - in HE, FE or industry, or the forces or overseas - but 12 per cent (35 people) were moving into industry, or commerce, or other types of employment. Industry, remote from education, particularly electrical and electronic, claimed the lion's share.

Although their destinations were varied, their reasons for leaving were always the same either an immediate and substantial increase in pay, improved prospects for the future or to escape the frustrations of inadequate resources. It is perhaps hardly necessary to point out that this situation is entirely consistent with the observation that it was much easier to make satisfactory appointments to the more senior, and therefore better paid posts. It is impossible to summarize adequately the comment volunteered by respondents. The general impression gained by reading them is one of gloom and despondency, and apprehension about the future. Words like "worrying", "serious", "grim", "desperate", "severe shortage" and "poor quality" recur frequently. There is stress on the shortage of young new entrants to the profession. We read of a school advertising three times and obtaining only one applicant, who was "shy, nervous, and a weak candidate in any other subject"; of a school that has failed to appoint a physics graduate for four years; of a physics teacher whose qualifications are O-level

general science plus some biology; of another with a degree in a peripherally related subject whose physics background is a grade E at A level of a school where the only applicants were a geographer and a person not a qualified teacher; and so on. The tale is endless. Even the few bright spots are informative; of the 20 or so heads who were satisfied, about half had made appointments in Scale 3 or better. Even in these cases the phrase "very fortunate" keeps recurring.

Let it be admitted at once that the evidence is based on information from a small number of schools; however, they probably represent a large fraction of all those which are trying to recruit physics staff. In the others, the situation may not be quite so grim, although the head's comments

give no suggestion of this; but it could be a good deal better, and still be bad. Of its nature, the evidence is particularly relevant not only to the immediate present but also to the situation in the future.

Perhaps more significant is the fact that statistics from the Graduate Teacher Training Registry show that the number of students embarking on teacher training courses with physics as their main subject fell from 489 in 1982 to 408 in 1984 about 10 per cent per year. More alarmingly, applications for training courses starting in September 1985 were, in March 1985, 34 per cent down on application at the same time in 1984. This trend is confirmed by a recent survey of PGCE physics tutors conducted by the Institute

of Physics.

The situation has been bad and is getting worse. The diagnosis of the malaise is clear: low pay, particularly for young people in areas with high housing costs, and the frustration of trying to work with inadequate resources. Combined with the temptations of the affluent and expanding electronics and computer industries, which are particularly relevant to physics graduates, the whole is a sure recipe for disaster.

I am grateful to the Institute for providing the data reported above: the opinions expressed do not commit that body in any way.

Professor Thompson is Emeritus Professor of Physics at the University of Bristol.



Bill Dennison and Neil Straker suggest it is time to package up your maths and science troubles.

The low pay of teachers, the erosion of their status and the comparative attraction of alternative work have all helped to worsen the shortage of maths and science teachers in secondary schools.

The growth of computer studies has robbed mathematics of perhaps 2,500 teachers. Similarly, the skills of physics teachers are needed to staff the new technological and vocationally biased curriculum of the upper secondary school and disproportionate number of physics teachers have become local authority or school TVET coordinators, further stretching a scarce resource.

The recession of the 1970s reduced the demands for these graduates from manufacturing industry and gave teacher recruitment more respite. But that reduction has been more than made up by the requirements of finance, commerce and insurance for numerate graduates, increasingly with computer competence.

A further factor becoming more prominent is the growing market for graduates in information technology and related areas. The main demand is for computer programmers, software engineers and electronic specialists. But because this will not be satisfied by graduates in these specializations, mathematicians and physicists will be attracted by the higher salary and status that such work can offer.

The increasing needs of this sector of industry should not be played down. Projections by the Alvey Directorate and the Department of Trade and Industry (the IT skills shortage committee) stress on the shortage of young new entrants to the profession. We read of a school advertising three times and obtaining only one applicant, who was "shy, nervous, and a weak candidate in any other subject"; of a school that has failed to appoint a physics graduate for four years; of a physics teacher whose qualifications are O-level

number and quality of staff required. Their most scarce resource will become still scarcer.

The effect of the shortage of good mathematics and physics teachers is cyclical: already there is evidence that the proportion of young people studying maths and physics at A level has fallen from a 1981 peak. Fewer and less able staff teaching a subject must reduce a pupil's inclination towards it. As a result the Government strategy outlined in the higher education green paper must be at risk.

If insufficient numbers of young people choose to study science, engineering and technology then the reorientation in higher education that the Government intends will not be achieved. For all of these activities mathematics and physics are core elements but with fewer graduates produced, an even higher proportion recruited by IT-related activities (both in the UK and elsewhere), fewer teachers entering the profession; still fewer A level candidates in mathematics and physics: we have all the elements of downward spiral.

Various solutions have either been tried and found wanting or are regarded as politically impracticable. Schemes to attract good quality graduates through scholarships or to recruit direct from industry have had minimal impact. The notion of differential salaries is firmly rejected by the teaching unions.

In practice, the most likely response of schools and local authorities to increasing shortage will be to either teach less of the subjects or to teach them with unqualified staff: both seem likely to enhance the downward spiral. Perhaps the problem is exaggerated by too much subject specialization in the upper secondary school. However, so long as there are three-year honours degree courses, that specialisation is likely to continue. Even falling rolls, reducing overall demand for

teachers, seems likely only to reduce, not minimize, the scope of shortage.

A more radical solution is demanded. Mathematics and physics teachers have to be regarded as a scarce resource, with their skills and knowledge utilized to the maximum effect. The 350 mathematics missionaries, appointed recently, represents a step in the right direction. It is based, though, on an outdated view of one teacher helping others by example and exposition. The scarce resource needs more effective utilization.

Technology provides the way. The inter-active video, (that is, video disc and microcomputers linked) offers enormous possibilities in terms of distance learning. There is no reason why an O level physics course cannot be effectively packed into a programme for use in schools. Indeed, most course in shortage areas could benefit from central development of teaching and support materials.

Two different types of staff are needed. Those designing and evaluating programmes and delivery systems; and those remaining in schools to assist the children. The design stage might involve groups of local education authorities.

In effect, the shortage of mathematics and physics teachers could be used as an opportunity to reorientate schools away from the single teacher, cellular mode. It will involve considerable investment initially, but it provides the only feasible solution to shortage. Recent experience from the MSC Open Tech Unit indicates that with increasing sophistication individual learning is enhanced through non-traditional modes. There appears to be no reason why such gains cannot be transferred to secondary schools.

Bill Dennison is director of advanced studies and Neil Straker, lecturer in education at Newcastle University School of Education.

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Teachers for animal liberation

Hugh David reports on the 'small but influential' teachers' group intent on making schools fur free zones.

Be they seals, frogs, pit ponies, battery hens, laboratory rats, school pets, feral cats or smoking beagles, in the last few years animals have been winning friends and influencing people as never before. There are old ladies who manage to stretch their Supplementary Benefit payments to buy food for the scores of wild cats in all our major cities. There are middle-class green-welly groups who shepherd convoys of toads through fast-moving motorway traffic, and there are pressure groups dedicated to mobilizing public opinion on all forms of animal exploitation.

The Animal Liberation Front has probably the highest profile with its commando-style "liberation raids" on research laboratories and school animal houses, and its spray-painted threats of even more drastic action. But, as a correspondent to *The TES* pointed out last year, there is no shortage of more orthodox groups equally committed to animal rights. There is the RSPCA, the National Anti-Vivisection Society, a corps calling itself Animal Vigilantes, and another which goes under the name Animal Aid; there is the Humane Research Council, the Lord Dowding Fund for Humane Research, Beauty Without Cruelty, Compassion in World Farming, and the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection.

And now there is Teachers For Animal Rights. Readers of the *Mail on Sunday* will already know that Teachers For Animal Rights is the outfit which wants the nursery rhyme *Three Blind Mice* banned from schools because it ridicules and degrades animals. They may not necessarily know, since the article did not tell them, that the group also has policies on the issues of free school milk, classroom pet-keeping, vegetarian meals, zoos and safari parks, home economics syllabuses, and the content of textbooks and other reading material available to children.

"Women, black people and animals are living beings and should not have to suffer fear, harassment, injustice, ridicule and deprivation of basic rights", TFAR founder and organizer Wanda Dejlidko told the press last January. That was why *Three Blind Mice* should be banned. She stands by those words today. "Would you like your tail chopped off with a carving knife?" she asks. "That's what it comes down to."

An intelligent, articulate Inner London primary school teacher, Ms Dejlidko formed Teachers For Animal Rights in October last year. But her active involvement with animal rights campaigning dates back to April 1982. "I saw a television documentary about the treatment of animals in laboratories and on factory farms", she remembers. "It was the most shocking thing I have ever seen." As a direct result she joined the South London Animal Movement, but was gradually convinced that it would be "to the animals advantage" for her to devote her considerable energies to starting a new educationally-based pressure group.

"I'd met people, teachers from other schools, teachers who also came to SLAM meetings", she says, "and it was obvious that there was so much to be done actually within education. You know,

'Three Blind Mice should be banned.'

there were reports in the papers about school pets being left to die over half-term, and then there was all that business about A level dissection a while ago. Even in my own school, I remember a time when I found a group of children throwing pet gerbils up in the air and catching them."

TFAR began with a letter Ms Dejlidko wrote to the ILEA teachers' magazine *Contact* and a small advertisement she placed in *The TES*. Now her evenings and weekends are taken up with guiding the group's slow but steady growth. Its membership, currently "64, but influential", already includes teachers from every form of school and college, students, inspectors and one "especially valuable" school governor. The paraphernalia associated with its mulling shots and piles of clippings designed for inclusion in its quarterly bulletin have long since taken over most of the



Wanda Dejlidko: supports the Animal Liberation Front 'totally... all the way'.

front room at her house in Tooting, south west London.

"Most of this is preaching to the converted, I know", she says, moving a pile of papers and anti-animal children's books from the coffee table. "But in the bulletin we do try to give both sides of the argument. We need to. We have to keep an eye on what the other side is doing."

The Other Side, it is apparent from the many cuttings from *The TES*, *The THES* and other journals reproduced in the two most recent issues of the TFAR bulletin, is a bizarre unknowing alliance of:

- publishers who still advertise "animal exploiting" books with titles like *Mr Bear's Birthday* in *The TES* books pages;
- zoos, dolphinariums and safari parks which try to woo school parties;
- the ILEA, which still provides free milk for infants' schools;
- school meals officers who don't provide either vegetarian or Vegan meals;
- school meals officers who do, but continue to cook them in animal fat;
- examination boards which insist on retaining dissection as part of their A level biology syllabuses; and
- the National Dairy Council and New Zealand Lamb Education Service which both promote products in schools.

The connection between the various bodies becomes clear from Wanda Dejlidko's conversation. The views she expresses are her own, she insists, but there seems to be little conflict between them and the declared policies of the group.

"I am a vegetarian; a Vegan, which means that if I'd made you coffee you'd have had it with soya milk", she says. "I don't wear leather shoes or anything made of silk. I no longer buy anything made of wool, although I do still occasionally wear a couple of old woollen sweaters. Obviously I can't eat school dinners and, interestingly, nor can an increasing number of children. Youth For Animal Rights recently did a survey about that. D'you know, 69 per cent of its members reported that their schools didn't serve vegetarian meals, although 86 per cent said they would be prepared to try them? We've got all the details in our latest bulletin. If you are really interested."

Also included are the inevitable clippings about vivisection and school dissection. One, headed

"Wraths laid for lab animals" comes from *The THES*. The longest is a closely-argued, two-page essay entitled "Those who are about to die salute the new breed of scientist" which rather surprisingly first appeared in the magazine *Computer Talk*.

But the whole area of vivisection and dissection is so patently and irredeemably wrong to Wanda Dejlidko that she is at first reluctant even to waste time talking about it. The arguments have been aired so often she is aware that her own opinions will come as no surprise. She is far keener to discuss other areas of special interest to Teachers For Animal Rights: "Rural studies courses. Have you heard about them? I know some schools are offering them, and I'd love to know exactly what goes on. They are something we must keep an eye on."

Eventually, however, she comes back to vivisection. "Yes, I support what the Animal Liberation Front are doing. Totally. All the way", she says flatly.

And to school dissection: "I did dissection when I was at college. I suppose I cut up about 10 animals over two years. It was interesting but totally unnecessary in my view. I thought so then and I think so now. But don't get me wrong; I

'Children accept unthinkingly that cows are just there to milk'

wouldn't particularly class myself as a sentimental animal lover even now. No, it's wrong because it leads to a desensitization. It has to. Cutting up anything - a worm, a frog, a dogfish, a rat - in school just institutionalizes the idea that it is perfectly all right for us to use animals any way we want. It leads children to accept unthinkingly that cows are just there for us to milk or to kill and eat, and that sheep are just there to provide us with wool.

"This is the job which Teachers For Animal Rights has got to do. As teachers we should all be making children think, not blindly preserving the status quo. That's what it amounts to when we give up free cows' milk, or see that kids eat up their school dinners, whatever they are, or teach them nursery rhymes like *Three Blind Mice*."

The real puffin club

Marsha Hanlon goes to Dale Fort field studies centre with a pioneering group of primary pupils.

Can I touch it?" asked a fourth year pupil from Shropshire, tentatively reaching toward the brown speckled gull's egg. "Is it that size when it's laid or does it expand?" asked another. We were on Skomer Island nature reserve in Dyfed, where expert staff from nearby Dale Fort Field Studies Centre were leading the Centre's first-ever group of primary school students into an awareness of the environment.

Some of the nine other Centres run by the Field Studies Council have welcomed junior schools for years, but until now it has been on an ad hoc basis. Most residential courses at the Centres are for sixth formers or adults. Financial cutbacks in the schools, though, have reduced the number of A level groups who come to learn about environment, ecology, geography and geology.

Tony Thomas, the Council's enthusiastic new director, decided that the self-financed Centres had to expand to new markets. And, as an environmentalist, he is keen to encourage youngsters - and their teachers - to take a scientific interest in their natural surroundings.

Working with Jack Cornell, headteacher at St Mary's Bluecoat School in Bridgnorth, he arranged for third and fourth year pupils from the school to take part in a pilot project, a residential environment studies course at Dale Fort. "It can't be a watered-down O level course," said Mr

Thomas. "You have to think yourself into dealing with juniors."

Jack Cornell and two other teachers spent a weekend at the Centre in March, planning their week's programme with Tony Thomas and the Dale Fort staff. When I joined the school party on a May afternoon, they were spending the day at Skomer.

"Have you seen any puffins yet?" I asked one pupil. "Yeah, they're great! There are some," he said, pointing to a mass of birds overhead. "You can tell them from gulls because their wings flap," he added, repeating a recently learned lesson.

David Emerson, Warden of Dale Fort, explained which birds build nests on the cliff's grassy slopes and which favour the narrow ledges below. The children sketched the site, placing kittiwakes, fulmars and guillemots in the hierarchy.

Like his pupils, Jack Cornell also scribbled in a notebook. "It's a dream for me just to sit back and take notes from the specialists," he said. "When we get home, the other teachers and I will have a planning session on how to carry on with what we've learned. It's up to us to use this week as a springboard."

A captured Skomer vole ("Notice how gently I hold it," pointed out Mr Emerson), two curlews and a lone peregrine falcon were among other species seen before we returned to the jetty. Prior

to boarding Dale Fort's converted lifeboat for the journey back, the children worked out bearings. "Is it true or magnetic?" asked Tony Thomas. "True," replied one girl. "We took it from a map."

During the crossing, David Emerson admitted he had personal reservations about presenting ecological information to such young children, but found that few adjustments were necessary. Mainly, he said, it's a matter of encouraging participation so they don't get bored. And there was the delicate balance of stressing safety ("No climbing, stay on the path") without stifling initiative.

He had explained the importance of avoiding litter (puffins can choke on flip-tops from cans) and reminded the pupils not to crush burrows. The extra effort to spell things out, he felt, was amply rewarded because "the children are very receptive to our ideas."

Back at the Centre's laboratory, pupils reviewed and recorded the birds and mammals they had seen. After dinner, they climbed up to the Centre's weather station. From their own observations and from the Centre's equipment, they filled in a daily record sheet with hours of sunshine, amount of cloud cover and direction of wind.

Then catch-and-release traps were set for insects and mammals. "That's something I hadn't thought of doing at school," said Mr Cornell. "We could keep long-term records."

One morning, pupils visited mud flats for a season of spot the wormcast. "Roll up your sleeves and wiggle your arms in the mud," invited the indefatigable Tony Thomas. "Find out what it's like to be a worm."

The children also were helped to discover heavy clay beneath the mud, and to gather whitecat and bristleworms as well as the more common crabs and empty shells. Reminded to leave things as found, they replaced the mounds of mud they had dug up, then returned to the lab with a bucketful of specimens to inspect under microscopes.

"Lab work," said Mr Thomas, "reinforces the practical session we've just had. If they observe, record and comment, at least they'll know what's there next time they go on a seaside holiday. Whether they do anything with it is up to them, but the more you know the more interested you're likely to be."

Next on the schedule was a survey of the rocky shore, using square frames to focus on one area of rock at a time. Some plant forms, the pupils found, cling to underwater rocks. Others prefer rocks which are submerged only at high tide, or those out of the water's range. Jack Cornell was enthusiastic: "I'm getting a scientific approach which I can use for all kinds of study nearer home."

Having started its marketing campaign with the Bridgnorth school, the Field Studies Council intends to promote its Centres to other junior schools in Shropshire, then will systematically widen the net. The 10 Centres, after all, stretch across England and Wales, from Essex to Devon, Surrey to Yorkshire.

A video of this pilot project will be shown at the Bridgnorth Teachers' Centre in July. In October, teachers from junior and lower secondary schools in Shropshire will be invited to the Field Studies Centre in Shrewsbury for a one-day session on teaching ecology.

Mr Thomas hopes that some teachers will then opt for tailor-made residential courses at Field Studies Centres, but he's also keen to help teachers develop programmes at their own schools. "If fieldwork is healthy," he said with a shrug, "so is our organization." Wherever the setting, the aim is to achieve a better understanding of the environment for all, he added. "Then, when it comes to deciding whether to build a road through woodland or to put up an oil refinery, we'll be able to make well-informed decisions."

Several Centres already offer group leadership courses for non-specialists (such as junior school teachers) who find they're responsible for environmental studies. A feature of the course is to show teachers how they can use experts to help.

Mr Thomas has grave reservations about untrained teachers doing fieldwork without a planned and scientific approach: "But if we meet with teachers, either at a Centre or in the schools, we can move forward together and learn from each other."

For Jack Cornell, too, working with specialists at the Centre was a valuable two-way process. "Primary teachers and experts are often sceptical about each other," he admitted. "They're interested in putting information over, and we're concerned with the mechanics of getting it through to the pupils. It's marvellous how we learn from each other."

Information about in-service training and residential courses in environmental studies can be obtained from Tony Thomas, Director of the Field Studies Council, Preston Montford Field Centre, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury SY4 1DX (0743 830674).



Pooling information on the rocks at Dale with Tony Thomas, Field Studies Council director.



Landing party: juniors from St Mary's Bluecoat School get a foot hold on Skomer Island.

مركز الأصيل

Martin Fago

For converts

Just a Bunch of Girls: Feminist Approaches to Schooling. Edited by Gaby Weiner. Open University Press £6.95. 0 335 15025X.

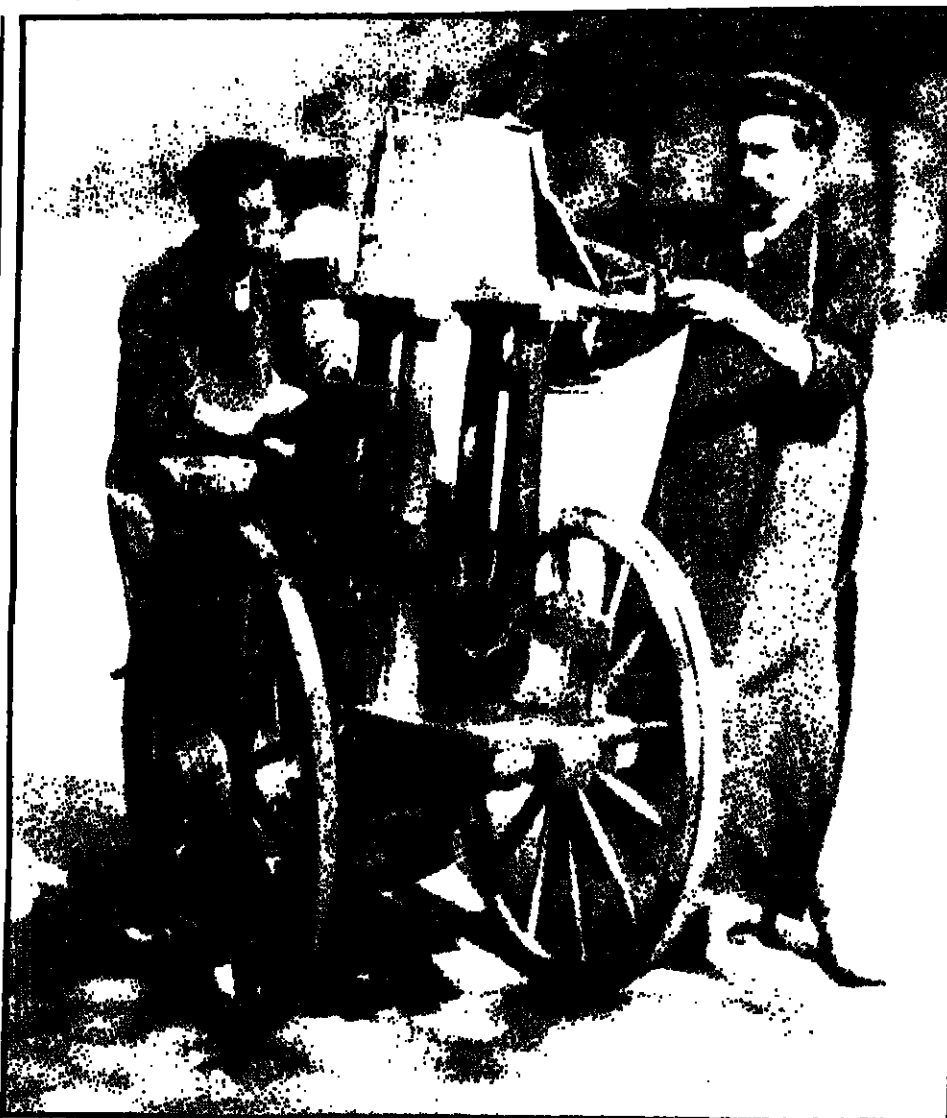
Just a Bunch of Girls: Feminist Approaches to Schooling is no more and no less than its sub-title promises. It is part of the Gender and Education series published by Open University Press under the general editorship of Rosemary Deem and Gaby Weiner, both of whom are on the staff of the Open University School of Education. The series sets out to provide "compact and clear accounts of relevant research and practice in the field of gender and education" and is aimed at teachers, parents and others "with an educational interest in ending gender inequality". Just a Bunch of Girls is far more about practice than about research: indeed the data base of most of the papers is either individual experience or experiment and observation in a single school. Readers looking for a substantive contribution to the findings of the social sciences will find the anecdotal quality of much of the book disappointing. In fact, as the series rubric implies, this volume is designed for an already committed readership, and is rather unlikely to make inroads into the hostility of those who believe in the rightness of existing gender differences in education or into the scepticism of those who doubt the seriousness or extent of gender inequality.

Taken overall the book tends to exemplify the contradictions posed by rival feminist perspectives rather than clarifying or ameliorating them. In the first chapter Gaby Weiner alerts us to the problem. She outlines recent small but significant movements of official opinion which constitute an embryonic policy for combating gender inequality in education and she differentiates what she calls the "equal opportunities" approach of official circles and mainstream opinion (which aims at equal access for boys and girls) from more radical (and, by implication, more "genuinely" feminist) "anti-sexist" policies. Neither she nor any of the

other contributors tackles the paradox at the heart of the latter position which seeks to place female knowledge at the centre of girls' education. If sexual oppression has already pre-constituted this knowledge it is difficult to see how such a policy can fail to reinforce the cultural and power differences between the male and female worlds. Weiner suggests that the "equal opportunities" and the "anti-sexist" campaigners can usefully cooperate on common ground. In the rest of the book it becomes clear, however, that the common ground is not very wide - non-gender-differentiated registers and dress perhaps; some agreement (though for different reasons) that part of the curriculum should be taught in all-female groups; and the promotion of girls' groups to foster self-confidence; but that is as far as it goes. On crucial issues such as school authority structures, girls' career patterns, the curriculum and, above all, on the nature of knowledge itself there is a deep ideological divide which cannot in the end be glossed over.

The essays in the book are divided into three sections. The first discusses general issues - feminist educational politics; the interconnectedness of sexism and racism (including a sharp indictment of the crude stereotyping of Asian females in some multicultural materials); male violence in schools (just how widespread is teacher tolerance of exhibitionist masturbation in class, one wonders); and the curriculum. Section two describes teachers' pupils' and occasionally parents' experiences of gender inequality. Section three outlines action programmes for several age ranges. There is a brief but well chosen bibliography and two appendices containing information on resources and contact organizations. The target readership of the book is clearly teachers and parents of a generally feminist persuasion. It will provide them with rhetorical ammunition and practical tips of some value - not least the political advantages of good humour - but without going very far to sort out the intellectual dilemmas into which they will inevitably run.

Bernice Martin



'Remouleur' (1899-1900): from Volume IV of The Work of Atget by John Szarkowski and Maria Morris Hambourg. This final collection of the master's photographs, entitled Modern Times, largely concerns the commercial life of Paris at the turn of the century (Gordon Fraser £35, published next Thursday)

On the streets

London Step By Step. By Christopher Turner. Pan £2.95. 0 330 28814 8.
London Under London. By Richard Trench and Ellis Hillman. John Murray £14.95. 0 7195 4080 1.

London Step By Step and London Under London are the winners of this year's London Visitor and Convention Bureau "Guide Book of the Year" Awards.

The first is aimed at those who believe the best way to see the capital is on foot. It describes 21 day or half-day itineraries which cover more than 600 locations. Each starts at an Underground station, provides very precise directions and includes at least one of the major sights. It also lists days or times at which particular features are likely to be shut.

The other provides an informative subterranean guide, including rivers, water mains, sewers, cable ducts, railways, cellars and defence fortresses. It

traces the history of their builders from Roman times to the present day and lists those which are open to the public, explaining how to get permission to visit the more unusual ones like disused Underground stations or Cardinal Wolsey's Wine Cellar under the Ministry of Defence.

One of its most interesting sections describes the use of the Underground for air-raid shelters during the Second World War blitz, but criticizes successive governments' vast expenditure since then on new tunnels for defence purposes - "as useful to modern warfare as the Tower of London".

The book is amply illustrated though unfortunately many of the most interesting photographs have been printed too small for the detail to be appreciated. Also it errs in saying that the Cabinet War Rooms are only open to visitors on two Saturdays a month. The first book gets it right: daily except Mondays.

Gillian Thomas

Fledgling Travellers

A Nest of Teachers. By Edward Blighen. Allison and Busby £3.95.

It's alarming that this reprint of the volume of Edward Blighen's autobiography dealing with his emergency teacher training after the war seems quite so relevant to present debates about teacher training and teaching standards. What place does his dawning insight that "a teacher can only construct himself slowly out of his own characteristics", or his realisation that a new teacher has to suffer a lot of banana skins and custard pies before learning to walk a couple of yards, have in the present scene of things? As usual, with Blighen, the account is both engaging and thought-provoking. It's good to be reminded of what schools were like in what some still see as a golden age - and also how many fundamental characteristics of teachers, and pressures on them, remain unchanged. There are nice glimpses of what it was like learning to be a husband and father, too.

InterChange, 15 Wilkin Street, London NW5 3NG; £5.95.
Minority Rights Group, 29 Craven Street, London WC2N 3NT; £4.95 & 60p p&p

Virginia Makins

PAPER BACKS

Poems of the Second World War: The Oasis Selection edited by Victor Selwyn (Dent £12, Everyman Classic £4.95). In January 1943, Spike Milligan heard a lone piper playing as the London Scottish buried their dead in Italian earth. The grief of the event inspired his first poem. This collection prepared by the Salamander Oasis Trust, which was funded by people serving in the Middle East during World War Two. Among the other poets, whose early work is represented here, are Charles Causley, Gavin Ewart, Roy Fuller, Vernon Scannell and Edward Lowbury.

Poetry Please! Foreword by Charles Causley (Dent £2.50). Margaret Bradley has selected 100 poems from among those broadcast in response to requests, made to BBC Radio 4's popular programme initiated by the late Brian Patten. Arranged alphabetically from Anon to Yeats they present a fair guide to the nation's poetic taste. Many old favourites are tracked down here, and the reader is constantly delighted by the full version of a poem remembered only by one or two lines.

The Price of Stone. By Richard Murphy (Faber & Faber £4. 0 574 435 68 4). The title of this new collection refers to a sequence of 50 subtly shaped sonnets, in which the buildings relevant to the poet's life are given a voice. The sequence is preceded by 21 new poems that confirm Murphy's vitality and establish him as one of Ireland's leading lyric poets.

Shakespeare's Birthday. By Peter Levi (Anvil Press £2.95). "The Lamentation of the dead" was the subject of Levi's inaugural lecture as Oxford Professor of Poetry in 1984. Now in a companion volume to The Echoing Green (1983), he presents in memoriam lines for three close friends, who were also fellow writers and who are partly remembered in the context of Shakespeare's life and death.

Collected Poems 1960-1984. By Francis Warner (Colin Smythe £9.95). Sonnets, both in their traditional form and in arrangements with internal rhymes, make up a considerable part of this collection. They fit in well with the poet's general lyrical and metrical style, which he uses to celebrate relationships and express moods. Several extracts from his plays are also included.

Shirley Toulson

Topic tasks

Today's World series:
The Living Town: The Living Countryside: Patterns of Living. By Michael Pollard. Holt, Rinehart and Winston £2.95 each.

Despite the combined efforts of authors and publishers, it is unfortunately rare to find any new publications which offer schools anything innovative in range or quality of content, structure, sequencing or design. Particularly rare are publications which effectively attempt to combine the traditional subjects in a way which enriches each curriculum area without losing its validity as a separate discipline. Today's World makes a brave attempt to do just that.

The series has been produced to provide teachers with resource material for topic work. Nothing new here, you might say, but there is a crucial difference. The author, Michael Pollard, has worked closely with the Mathematics Education Working Group, supported by the Nuffield



PRIMARY

Foundation. They have jointly produced a series which, although fundamentally dealing with social and environmental studies, includes a significant mathematical aspect which supports and extends the social and environmental topics where possible.

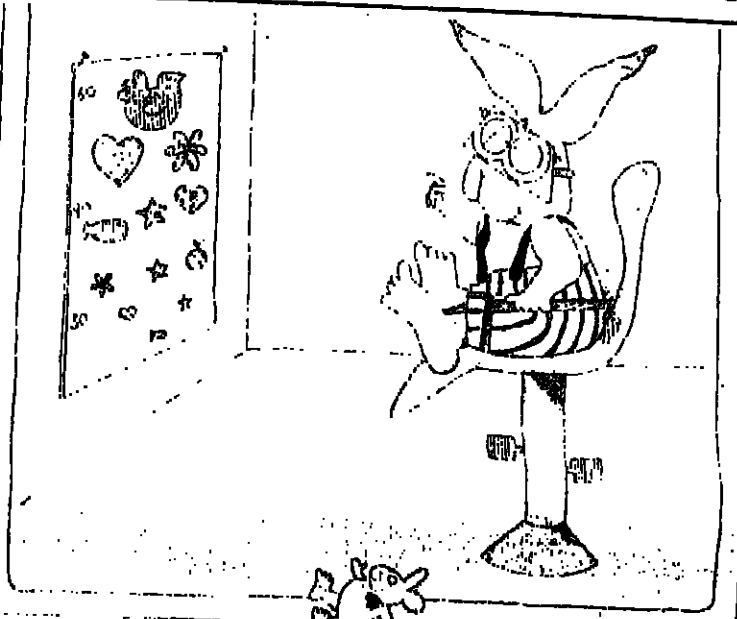
The virtue of this material is that the "mathematics" is not a mere appendage to the topics, but instead forms an integral part of them. It is therefore a vehicle for using mathematical knowledge and skills in real life situations. The mathematics required is wide ranging, from examination of simple statistics to graph work and the application of arithmetic and simple geometry, but is everywhere sound in content and expected outcomes.

Each book covers a wide range of topics. The Living Countryside includes the history of a village, employment patterns, changing environments, farming, marketing, the development of mechanization, social structures, and leisure activities. The Living Town includes urban wildlife, urban development,

human and animal habitats, social structures in towns, travel, local government and pollution. Patterns of Living uses a structure similar to the TV programmes How We Used To Live, by examining several generations of a family through family trees, ways of life and work, residential patterns, diet, transport, entertainment, holidays, finance and so on. Each book includes a sensible amount of mathematical "follow up", either in terms of analysis of the facts presented, or to extend the material towards deeper, more personal understanding.

Because of my personal interest in both mathematics and social studies I found the books to be stimulating and a welcome breath of fresh air. Presumably they have been written for the 9-13 age range, although I have no doubt they would find a place in many courses for older pupils. The question is, which place? I suspect that the traditional subject specialists will find them too peripheral for mass purchase, while the arch proponents of the topic approach in primary schools may well find them excessively rigorous. They are therefore caught between the demands of two bitterly opposed factions in the educational world. Fortunately it is in this delicate situation that we usually find the most sensible and realistic innovations. This series is sensible and realistic and ought to find a ready market.

Paul Harling



A testing time for a near-sighted rabbit - one of the illustrations to Cromwell's Glasses by Holly Keller (Julia MacRae Books £4.95).

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Domestic dramas

her waking life. This intense relationship is likely to be the point of the book for young readers, and it seems rather a pity that such a crucial preoccupation is not developed more imaginatively, but instead has to fit into the framework of the blind girl's routine.

Bear's Room - No Peeping by Michelle Cartledge (Methuen £4.95. 0 416 43390 2) is a book about having your own space. Bear is preparing a party and "Do Not Disturb" notices go up all over the house as baking, painting and present-making are in progress. This genuinely charming book is a good guessing game and it spurred on a five-year-old reader into making a whole collection of "Keep Out" notices for use round his own house.

inventive use of the double page spreads throughout the book. Another contest shapes the plot in Katie Morag and the Two Grandmothers by Mairi Hedderwick (Bodley Head £5.25. 0 370 30664 3). This latest instalment from the Isle of Struay concerns the island show, Alectra the sheep's battle for the Best Ewe and Fleeces Trophy, and the sticky relationship between Katie Morag's two grandmothers: Grannie Mainland, with blue rinse, hair rollers and frills, and Grannie Island, who stomps around in green wellies and a disapproving glare. Mairi Hedderwick clearly enjoys documenting this contrast of styles and as usual there is a wealth of reading in her pictures, quite apart from the main line of the story.

Far Hutchins' talent for pacing a plot and her graphic inventiveness are apparent in The Very Worst Monster (Bodley Head £5.25. 0 370 30869 7), a tale of sexism and sibling rivalry in a monster family. Hazel knows she can be as bad as her baby brother, but nobody takes any notice of her when Baby Billy is around, especially when he is winning the Worst Monster Baby in the World competition. This is a truly unpleasant event with scary and adoring families gaping fondly at their toothsome, badly-behaved offspring. Hazel and Billy learn to be bad together in the end; less scary children will undoubtedly enjoy their horrid ways.

Finally another classic of sibling rivalry, Noley Nora by Rosemary Wells (Collins £2.95. 0 00 183740 0), is reissued. There is nothing like this book; it stands any amount of rereading. It also contains the perfect reissue line: "But I'm back again!" said Nora. With a monumental crash. A crashing welcome to her.

Myra Barrs

Take a letter

Reading is Fun:
The Alphabet Game; The Animal Parade. By Judy Hindley and Colin Kings. Down in the Woods. By Nicola Smees. Up Along and Down and Under. By Diane Wilmer and Iris Schwelzer. Ernest the Pterodactyl. By Amy and Philip Rowe and Andrea Norton. Brer Rabbit and the Peanut Patch. By Susan Dickinson and David Frankland. Collins £3.50 and £1.50 each.

Letterland:
The Letterland ABC. £5.95. Letterland storybooks: The Wicked Witch's Wish; Clever Cat and the Clown; The Hair Hat Man's House; Bouncy Ben's Birthday. Hamlyn £1.99 each.

School reading material has traditionally adopted a rather pious tone, reflecting the tradition of the "improving" nature of elementary school texts. Happily, fun is now given a much greater priority and the content of these two sets of materials reflects this shift.

Reading is Fun is a series aimed at four to nine-year-olds. Alfie the Alligator provides the logo and the first two books, The Alphabet Game and The Animal Parade, alphabet and counting books respectively, are very much in the tradition of the Dr Seuss-style books. The illustrations have a whacky, cartoon style appeal and the text has the repetitive, onomatopoeic quality that I have always found irritating to read aloud. Page 15, for example reads: "Li Look, look What I can do - Leap high - Lie low - Lick a lovely lolly." However, the children who "tested" the books lapped up text, illustrations, and all. The story books are each written and illustrated by a different team. The emphasis is on reading for enjoyment. The quality of paper in the books is coarse and absorbs the vibrancy of the illustrations, but the variety of stories provides a welcome contrast to the uniform blandness of much reading scheme material.

The Letterland series have a more obviously didactic purpose. The author devised a series of pictograms initially to help children with reading difficulties. The system for teaching reading and spelling is based on an-

imating each letter so that the reader learns to associate letter and sound with a particular image. Eg: b is Bouncy Ben the busy rabbit, l is Lucy the Lamp Lady, t is Ticking Tom the Teletouch Man. In this way common confusions, for example reversals such as b and d, are precluded as children develop consistent strategies for recognition and recall of letters. The confusing world of phonic facts is thus reduced to a fantasy explanation. This extends to the mechanics of blending sounds.

In the introductory book, The Letterland ABC, intended for parents and teachers, the pictogram for each letter/sound is introduced in a short text with accompanying detailed illustrations. The storybooks (four at present, four more due in September) focus the attention of the child on a particular letter/sound combination throughout the text. This forces the text into some extraordinary gymnastics. For example, "Clever Cat was feeling cosy. Curled up on a cushion in Letterland castle, she fell asleep and dreamed. She dreamed of cream cakes. In the steamed of climbing trees". The illustrations Clever Cat always has an uncomfortable looking red C clamped to the side of her head. Children, however, liked the illustrations enormously. One child's response was: "You can read the pictures without this story". I suspect that would be the preferred way of using the books for many children.

The author claims that the Pictogram System is in widespread use in primary schools. Teachers have long been devising their own similar systems to help recall of letters and sounds but have individualized them for their own learners. The Letterland system seems to want to make a mystery of this simple aid to associative learning. Significantly, the title urges the reader to "discover the secrets of Letterland". Nevertheless, the series, which is beautifully presented, may provide a useful additional classroom resource. One quibble must be registered. The ratio of male to female characters in the pictogram system is two to one. All the indisputable vowels are men. This must be bad news for the female self-image!

Angela Anning

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lingo

Greengrocers Disa'se sweep's Englands school's!

One way of assessing the movement of English language is to look at the difference in the use of it in General Studies - the most popular subject at A level, and the only one taken by students of all disciplines.

Examiners have learnt over the years that the battle they did in their youth, against English teachers who knew more than Fowler, is a battle apparently no longer fought. The movement of the language is such that, for instance, over 90 per cent of the students do not hesitate to boldly split infinitives where no man has split infinitives before. The present sub-junctive of the verb "to be" is also dying, if not dead. "If I were" sounds archaic, and its use is disappearing fast, even in parts of the country where ideolot would suggest "I were" rather than "I was".

We all have to accept these changes, of course, even though they provoke an unbidden shudder. What is far more difficult to accept is the inexorable rise of Greengrocers Disa'se. This syndrome acquired its name through the propensity of greengrocers to advertise their wares - almost always plural - with apostrophes everywhere but where they should be. A good example is the sign for "Granny Smiths apple's". The disa'se seem's to be reaching epidemic proportion in A level candidates. Is it learnt? Could it be so bad as to affect (or "effect" as a large proportion of A level candidates would have it) A level examiners?

Brian Espiner

Anglo-Indian

Common Indian Words in English. Compiled and edited by R E Hawkins. Oxford University Press (India) £3.95 0 19 561628 6

Due to the peculiar historical moment in the connection between Britain and India, Yale & Burnell's *Hobson-Jobson* (1886) became, in conception and execution, the equivalent of the *Oxford English Dictionary* for words of Anglo-Indian provenance. Changed historical conditions mean that *Hobson-Jobson* will never be rivalled.

Common Indian Words in English does not set out to compete, but to be a sort of contemporary equivalent of it. Some 200 of the words here are in fact drawn from *Hobson-Jobson* and from Whitworth's *Anglo-Indian Dictionary*, but fully half the 2,000 or so words here have been drawn from the *Oxford English Dictionary* and its *Supplements*. The remaining 800 or so have been chosen by Mr Hawkins on the basis of contemporary Indian printed usage.

The pronunciation guide indicates how English people (rather than how Indians) pronounce these words, alternative spellings are not always given, and some of the meanings provided are more limited than is warranted: "Jall", for example, is not only a "pierced marble screen", but any worked material that gives the visual effect of a net.

On the whole, however, this is an excellent little reference book for everyone who reads materials from or about South Asia.

Prabhu S Gupta

ARTS

A Wind!

Destiny. By David Edgar
Half Moon Theatre
Mudlun! By David Essex/Richard Crane
Torvill & Dean - The World Tour
Wembley Arena.
The Three Beadings of Tao Sanchun.
By Wu Zuguang
Royal Court Theatre

History has overtaken David Edgar's *Destiny* and passed it by. What seemed powerful agit-prop theatre in the RSC's 1976 production now seems more like empty bombast. The bogies then raised now appear less than shadows. Even the dialogue turns to bite the hand that wrote it: Mrs Howard's complaint that the Conservative Party has abandoned the good old-fashioned virtues of thrift, self-help and private ownership sounds very hollow after years of Thatcherism. If a week is a long time in politics, what price nine years?

Starting with the British withdrawal from India in 1947 it traces the disillusionment of ex-servicemen returning to "Socialist" England, the disarray of traditionally paternalistic liberal Tories, the struggle of "New Commonwealth" immigrants to establish working rights and the rise of the National Front up until 1976. Funded from South Africa the Nationalist bull-boys seem set to take over Britain.

Everything is extreme and extremely predictable. Each crudely processed scene, introduced by a doggerel verse prologue, rams home the anti-Conservative message. That it seems to be anti-Semitic and anti-gay too makes it even more questionable. Chris Bond's self-indulgent lack-pace production is literally all over the place. He was mistaken to do it in-the-round - such unreal characters cannot be identified with - and to employ some of his actors.

Mudlun! is also a mistake, though the David Essex Fan Club at curtain-fall might suggest otherwise. They rose, cheered, threw bouquets, wreaths for dead theatre. What? Wreath William Dudley's set fabulously transforms a bare stage into Bligh's notorious "Bounty" pitching and rolling most lifelike, if that is the only life there is! "A Wind!" the sailors cry, and the sails hang down

refusing to billow. Sixteen numbers in Act 1 plus twelve in Act 2 produce nothing musical. Rambert's Graham Bruce choreographs a spirited hornpipe, but his Tahitian dances are messy and interminable. Frank Finlay alternates blustering and cooing as Bligh. David Essex strikes "Pimpernel" attitudes as Christian, dedicated to freedom and honour. Richard Crane's book (pardon?) is out of *The Magnet* by *The Beano*: schoolboy heroics. *Mudlun!* was two years in preparation and sank on launching. Record breaking pre-production ticket sales should help salvage the wreck. Essex is assured of a decent run thanks to his fans.

The fans were out in force to welcome Torvill and Dean on *The World Tour*. Favourite competition pieces "Mack & Mabel" and "Bar-num" mixed happily with the familiar "Paso Doble" and "Song of India" while "The Last Song" and "Encounter" added serious notes. These last, choreographed by or with Graeme Murphy, show the influence of modern ballet on the champions' style and their ability to enlarge the scope of ice dance. Their talented company do what ice-skaters seem always to do: develop, pirouettes, arabesques and attitudes. Torvill and Dean (he especially) astonish us with new images, incredible lifts, daring drops, dazzling leaps and turns in brilliant technical displays which suggest art. They are in a class of their own and their clever "romance on ice" motif is a winner.

So is the Peking Opera presented as part of LIFT (London International Festival of Theatre) '85. How Tao Sanchun gets her men in six Acts is an enthralling display of exotic theatrical delights in acting, song, dance, acrobatics, juggling and costume. Richly colourful, delightfully humorous, *The Three Beadings of Tao Sanchun* was written in 1962 to defend women's rights. It is presented in the timeless manner of Chinese Theatre with actors whose brilliance overcomes the language barrier between them and most of their audience. It is sheer enchantment; spectacular theatre at its best and simplest.

John James

The Vivian Ellis Prize (£500) for young composers of musicals was awarded to George Stiles and Anthony Drewe for their musical based on the *Just So* stories of Rudyard Kipling. The judges of the competition, held at the Guildhall, included Tim Rice and Vivian Ellis, president of the Performing Rights Society, the organizers of the event. Highly commended for her offering "Angel's Delight" was youngest entrant 13-year-old Amber Lucy Ross, who plays violin in the orchestra of St Philomena's convent school, Carshalton, and whose ambition is to write music for the stage.

The results of the annual Music Teacher Awards competition were announced recently. Lady Barbicoll presented Bob Mason from Grange-

town Primary School, Middlesbrough with the School Music Teacher of the Year award. (Grangetown recorders are familiar Schools Prommers, having appeared two years in succession at the Albert Hall.) Mrs Joan Rowe from Rotherham received the Private Music Teacher of the Year award, and Michael Slade the Media award for Granplan Television's "Music from Castle Fraser". Sixth former Charlotte Donelan from St Paul's Girls School was the Pupil of the Year. The final award went to distinguished pianist Sidney Harrison for his services to music education. For further information contact Leonard Pearcey, editor of *Music Teacher* on 01-947 2355 or Mrs Pat Williams, deputy editor, on 01-240 3757 or 524 1874.

BETTER SCHOOLS

This White Paper published on March 26 which includes proposals for legislation - on school governing bodies and in-service training and some final decisions in other areas such as AS levels - was summarized in The Times Educational Supplement on March 29. Reprints of this summary are available price 25p each (cheques/postal orders made payable to The Times Supplements) from:

Lesley Griffiths, The Times Supplements, Priory House, St John's Lane, London EC1M 4BX.

The price includes 2nd class postage but not Red Star or hand delivery.

Radio
Dr Who gets a boo

Pirate Radio 4
Radio 4 VHF Wednesdays until August 8.

Last year *The TES* took Radio 4 to task for not providing enough speech-based feature material for younger listeners. One of the reasons given was that past attempts had met with approval by adults and indifference by the listeners it was aiming at.

Apparently, that article contributed to the demand already growing within the BBC to have another stab at the teenage audience. The strategy adopted this time was to try and create something with less adult appeal, hence the subversive sounding title. In fact, *Pirate Radio 4* is about as subversive as a rerun of *Gardeners' Question Time*. No amount of over exciting linking from DJ Steve Blackwell ("It's absolute mayhem in the Studio 1") can disguise the fact that much of the three hour compendium programme depends on the styles and conventions of non-pirate Radio 4. Spoof news from a Bernard Falk soundalike and a live interview with Kenneth Williams reminding about the Finsbury Park Empire are unlikely to attract the teenage trendsetter.

However, to be fair, PR4 has learnt a lot from mainstream radio's mistakes. For a start it's in stereo so that

the music sounds better than on one-sided Radio 1. It also gives listeners with cassette recorders on their radios the welcome opportunity of committing their own minor acts of piracy. Another lesson learnt from the ghastly three-hour *Rollercoaster* of last year is that you don't have to keep inserting complicated trails about what's on next to keep people listening. ("At 11.17 you can hear the second part of Morning Show that comes after the news and before Act of Worship which is at the new time of etc. etc.") PR4 just steams on with the occasional "more of that later" usually tossed in between close harmony jingles, some very ancient one-line gags and the odd chart hit.

As far as the programme's content is concerned, it's hard to give anything more than a hokey/booby run-down of the maiden voyage's booty. So hokey for most of the comedy material and for some of the special features, like the item on how teenage magazines treat the rock world and the one about Reggae MCing - a lightning version of dub poetry popularized by Smiley Culture's *Police Officer*. I particularly liked the *From Our Own Correspondent* style report of the Japanese inventor who has perfected an electronic putter and a chair that increases your intellectual prowess by 30 per cent. A muted cheer, too, for the new Adrian

Mole musings. However overexposed Mole has become, he's still funny on the radio, especially his report of the grunting noises coming from his bathroom on Boxing Day 1984.

Oddly enough, grunting noises were reported coming from Dr Who's console as well, later in the morning. Regrettably, Who gets a boo. Only the staunchest of fans will be able to do the necessary visualizing. Likewise the item on Covent Garden street entertainers. It's a little known fact that only the worst buskers are now selected to perform there, the result of a conspiracy between the authorities and the traders to keep the tourists off the streets and in the shops. I'm none too keen on the "radio cartoon" idea, either. *Lill* depends on actress Miriam Margulies doing all the voices for a motor cycle gang. By the time you've sorted out who's who, the three minute programme is over, without giving the impression that there was actually any laughs in it.

In all, though, PR4 is to be applauded. Its intentions are admirable, its style is right for a young audience and, most important, it's not in the least condescending. When it was over I tuned (briefly) into Radio 1. It sounded quite middle aged in comparison.

Nick Baker

Gospel spirit

Godspell
Brewhouse Youth Theatre

The Brewhouse Youth Theatre from Taunton was rightly praised for its high spirits and panache, when it took to the production of Brecht's *The Mother* to the National Youth Theatre at Loughborough last September. Those qualities are still much in evidence in its current tour of *Godspell*, which Londoners can see in Southwark Cathedral tonight. The company arrives in the capital after performing to packed audiences in Wells, Liverpool and Ripon.

This exuberant production of the musical based on St Matthew's Gospel (first devised in the 1960s and now updated for the present generation), remarkable for its beautiful precision, courageous use of still and silent moments, and its sensitive and subtle mood and pace rhythms.

The performance is outstanding in a company whose ages range between 14 and 24, and which takes all comers into membership, demanding only a total commitment to the theatre group. Under the direction of two young Taunton teachers, Helen Baillie and Stephen Elliott, who give 40 hours of their spare time every week to the venture, the Brewhouse Youth Theatre provides its members with a variety of stage experiences and opportunities for related community work. The group does not set out to provide training for professional acting careers, although one of *Godspell's* leading singers, Jo-Anne Hewitt, is starting at Bristol Drama School in the autumn. Mark Fogwill, who plays Christ in this production, is a more typical member of the group. By happy coincidence he is a carpenter, whose employers have given him unpaid leave for the tour.

This Youth Theatre is completely unfunded. To raise the £8,500 needed to take the company of 24 actors, supported by a three-piece band (piano, drums, and guitar) as well as the stage crew on tour, the members did their own fund raising, collecting money by sponsored ventures which included marathon Shakespeare readings. Any profit that they manage to make from the sale of seats will go straight to Live Aid.

Hugh David

Shirley Toulson



Martin Riley (Policeman), Peter Greeves (Kevin Joyce) and Howard Crossley (Policeman).

Sentimental view

The Enemies Within
The DAC Theatre Company at the Young Vic, until August 10

It was clear from the start that *The Enemies Within*, latest in a lengthening line of plays about the miners' strike, was going to be at least as political as its predecessors. Not only was its title stolen from a remark of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's, its run at the Young Vic is being financed by a special grant from the GLC's Arts and Recreation Committee.

What wasn't clear - and indeed came as a bit of a shock - was that it was also going to be so sentimental. To some extent this was inevitable. While the majority of the half-dozen or so previous plays inspired by the strike have been based on interviews with miners and their families, *The Enemies Within* was written by a dramatist who was entirely composed of them. Its 17 short scenes were little more than monologues; the memories and impressions of strikers, pickets, their wives and mothers, delivered verbatim and with all the hesitations, errors and inconsistencies one gets in a back kitchen or public bar.

"We'd no dinner that day... it were the worst 24 hours of my life", said one woman at one point. It may or may not have been, for truth and impartiality were commodities noticeably lacking in the play. It did not - could not - tell the whole story and so contented itself with a rosy, romanticized view of rather less than half of it.

Scene after scene recalled how groups of lads - "good lads" at that - were suddenly, inexplicably set upon by cohorts of helmeted, truncheon-swinging thugs in blue. It weren't fair, they said; honest, officer, they were just off for a day's fishing. And, if they knew, neither they nor the play was letting on how the lads were set on fire, how the police came to lose their front teeth and how chunks of concrete fell from motorway bridges.

The events at Corton Wood, at Orgreave and Armthorpe were thus transformed. Indeed, *The Enemies Within* may well come to be remembered as the play which best demonstrated how, in less than six months, the whole splendid dispute of which they were just a part has already assumed mythological status, at least in the South Yorkshire area where the DAC Theatre Company did its research.

Standing in his backyard and remembering what several speakers called the "siege" of Armthorpe, one miner said: "You can see the blood on the floor there. It's rained since, but it hasn't washed it away." It took Homer and a couple of hundred years to embellish the story of a Bronze Age scrap in Asia Minor with such detail and convert it into the myth of the Trojan War. *The Enemies Within* shows how folk memory has done much the same with the miners' strike in well under a year.

Mocking the film theorists

The Purple Rose of Cairo (PG)
Gate Cinema, Bloomsbury
Diary for my Children (PG)
Camden Plaza
The Princess (18)
Gate Cinema, Notting Hill
Nasty Habits (Our Story) (15)
Lumiere Cinema, St Martin's Lane

It is quite possible to be solemn about Woody Allen. *The Purple Rose of Cairo*, you could say, addresses problems of narrative, realism and the relation of representation to lived experience. It also has something to say about cinema history and in particular the codes of Hollywood: notice that when playing the explorer Tom Baxter, Jeff Daniels always wears his pith helmet and that when playing the actor who plays Tom Baxter he turns out to be something of a bastard, slightly interested in his career. I dread to think how much could be written on Cecilia (Mia Farrow), especially by a feminist critic with training in psychoanalysis. If Woody Allen is saying anything at all, it is probably to cock a snook at film theorists.

The premise of the film is that Cecilia falls in love with one of the stars of a Thirties romance who steps down off the screen. Still trapped by the conventions of the cinema, he can only conceive God as a scriptwriter and is amused by the fact that in the real world people make love without a fade-out. Cecilia has enough cause to wish to escape from a reality that includes a crummy job and a brutal husband, and Tom is everything she has dreamed of. But perfection, too, has its drawbacks and when fiction overflows into reality, it causes problems, not least on screen where the cast is left to cope with Tom's disappearance. The film is clever, funny and just the right length.

It is quite possible to treat *Diary for my Children* as primarily an exercise in satire. Martin Meszaros's fictionalized autobiography incorporates flashbacks to her childhood in the Soviet

Union where her father "disappeared" in the purges of the late Thirties. The slow-witted, like myself, only realize in the final moments of the film that the father is played by the same actor, Jan Nowicki, as the bearded older man who befriended Juli (Zausa Czinko) after the war in Budapest. Only when Juli, Meszaros' alter ego, visits András in prison (where he is clean-shaven) do the two strands of the film come together.

The implication behind this identification of father and father-figure, both victims of Stalinism, was not lost on the Hungarian authorities: the film was banned for three years and it is surprising that it has been released for export even now. Here, it is unlikely to shock, but its political significance as a view of recent history is obvious. Its wider significance lies in the skill with which Meszaros brings together her personal story and the historical and sociological themes, particularly through the personality of Juli's foster-mother, Magda (Anna Polony). Finding escape in the cinema, Juli rejects Magda and the privileged life of the

button in a crowded lift. This is belied to have originated in the reaction against a craze, popular in the early '70s, for doing lateral thinking exercises.

Look over your shoulder between sips of cider. Apparently originated by a subliminal response to advertising, and the subsequently induced terror of being struck down by a shower of arrows.

Bill Greenwell

Never say your name in a computer's hearing. By 1990, so many people had become victims of "computer error" that there arose a widespread belief that if you let a computer "have your name" (just as Moslems used to dread letting photographers "have their image"), its erratic malevolence would somehow hound you for evermore.

Andrew McEvoy

When you see six policemen at once, you should turn over the contents of your pocket. This is thought to be connected with the concealment of offensive weapons during the miners' strike 1984.

When you are waiting for a train, it is unlucky to turn your head in the direction from which you expect it to come. Medical origin. Trains ran so late in the winter of 1984/85 that a number of people had to be treated for stiff necks.

Never shake hands with a man who has pierced ears. Probably arose from a combination of a terror of AIDS and a confessed knowledge of earring signals used by homosexuals.

Paul Griffin

Avoid the dustman's wrath - no rubbish on the path. Some people believe that garbage is possessed of a soul and is reluctant to leave the home in which it is created. Superstition has it that only a dustman has power over rubbish and if you displease him he will

It is unlucky to press the bottom

Gerard Benson

ARTS

Jimmy Dean

Come Back to the 5 and Dime Jimmy Dean Jimmy Dean
Tricycle Theatre, Kilburn.

Having moved from stage to film (by Robert Altman), Ed Graczyk's play *Come Back to the 5 and Dime Jimmy Dean* is now back in its original form. The Tricycle Theatre in Kilburn presents a tautly-balanced production by the Bolton Octagon Theatre which is an almost total success.

A 1975 reunion party brings together five characters who, twenty years earlier, lived through the filming of *Giant* in a little west Texas town. Their James Dean fixation is for fear of them just an amusing youthful memory. Mona, however, has stayed close to Reata, the facade of the mansion used in the film, unable to leave the scene of her most exciting fantasies. Her son, the Jimmy Dean of the play's title, is at once her pride and

her shame. Mick Bearwish has recreated the 5 and Dime store to perfection; flyblown and steamy hot, it is a garishly decorated shrine to the memory of Hollywood's delinquent idol.

The unexpected swings from "now" to "then" and back were more easily accomplished on film. This production chose to give the central part of Mona close to two actresses of a totally different physical type, thus initially creating confusion over identities. But this is not very important in an otherwise splendidly directed production. John Adams maintains suspense, brings out the comic and tragic aspects of each character, and is well served by an excellent cast.

Containing six well-drawn dramatic parts, and needing only one set, this fascinating play would be a choice any amateur or repertory company would do well to consider.

Betty Tadman

Rural religion

The Turbulent Priest
Newport Theatre Group, Newport
Free Grammar School, July 17-19

As two of the most successful and popular promenade productions (since the 15th century that is) have been *Lark Rise and The Passion*, Newport Free Grammar School could count itself lucky in its rural setting and religious subject. In 1910 the radical vicar Conrad Noel inherited a church that really was the Tory Party at prayer. He ripped out its pews, decorated it with the flags of St George and Sinn Féin, paraded the Host around the parish and vigorously encouraged strikes, morris dancing and Gustav Holst, while preaching "the Jesus of the Gospels" and "the God who has always taken sides".

The *Turbulent Priest* is the result of an 18-month research project by the school, played in the open air with a peripatetic audience. While much enjoying the use this convention is put to, as a member of the audience I would have liked to have been exploited (or even bullied) more - for the processions, dances and songs to have taken off and taken over.

Although sometimes - the familiar

drawback of collectively worked shows - the writing is a little diffuse, there are some patches of sharp dialogue, and the exposition of ideas, as in Lady Warwick's conversion to socialism or the differences of practical theology between Noel and his Bishop, is notably clear. In fact clarity is a prime virtue of the production, but it has been achieved at the cost of passion. There are interesting characterizations from Mark Davis as Noel, David Todd, Lis Blundson, and Louise Ellison, as the still beautiful (and, despite her radicalism, still amusingly Gosple-ish) Lady Warwick.

Jill Burrows

Next week

Leslie Geddes-Brown visits the new Ruskin gallery in Sheffield and Frances Spalding reviews John Ruskin: The Early Years by Tim Hilton

It is unlucky to tell the truth to an opinion pollster. This is indubitably because whichever party you intended voting for will stand no subsequent chance of winning an election.

Bill Greenwell

Never take an opinion poll on St. David's day. The avoidance originated in researchers' miscalculations in the Brecon and Radnor constituency.

George Moor

If you pass through a radar trap without being stopped, flash your headlights. It could be that the act is a ritual sign of the driver's gratitude to the "Highway God" for safe deliverance.

V Ernest Cox

It is unlucky to use an electronic

calculator to compute records on School Sports Day. Dates from the time of Sir Isaac Newton Comprehensive when the head of maths, Mr Wendy Agram and her assistant, Geo Metrick, submitted a set of new World Records to the Guinness Book.

Gerard Benson

Competition No 66. Set by Scylla "I am the moorland Damsel, known Through all the meadows I have mown."

The meadows Andrew Marvell's Damon mowed were tougher than our lawns, but we thought that while toiling this summer you might like to compose a 12-line "mowing poem", either in Marvell's or your own style, and send it to us by August 21.

BRITISH FEDERATION OF Young Choirs
Affiliated to the European Federation of Young Chorus
Registered Charity No. 328728

Peterson:
Lady Evelyn Stubbins
Sir Basil Evans CBE
Sir Peter Pears CBE
Sir Michael Tippett CBE

First Federation Singing Day
rehearsed and conducted by Sir David Willcocks.
Accompanied by the Leicestershire Schools' Chamber Orchestra (Conductor: Stuart Johnson)
De Montfort Hall, Leicester November 10th, 1985.

PROGRAMME
Handel - Coronation Anthem 'Let thy hand be strengthened'
Schütz - German Magnificat
Kodaly - The Peacock
Handel - Coronation Anthem 'Zadok the Priest'
Choirs interested in learning the music and taking part should apply to:
Hon. Sec: BFYC, 223, Forest Road, Old Woodhouse, Loughborough,
Leicestershire, not later than August 30th, 1985 for application form and further details.

RESOURCES



Summer programmes

Mary Cruickshank leads a tour of children's activities in museums and galleries

There's no need to worry about bored children this summer. The ingenious and energetic museum and art gallery staff providing exciting summer programmes is much in evidence.

LONDON

First, what's on offer in London? As always, people within reach of the capital are well catered for and the tendency here is for current exhibitions and collections to be made the focus of special activities.

Events at the Museum of London, EC2, for example, are linked with their major exhibition, *The Quiet Conquest*. How to trace your Huguenot ancestry is the title of one workshop and there will be demonstrations of traditional Huguenot crafts such as silver work and silk weaving, with a practical spinning and weaving session on August 6. (01-600 3699 ext 239)

Huguenots are also represented in holiday activities at the Geoffrey Museum, E2, as well as inter settlers to the area. Irish immigrants in the 18th and 19th centuries; Jews from Eastern Europe and most recently Asians, particularly Bengalis. The varied programme of activities including art and craft workshops, music, drama and cookery has been inspired by various aspects of these groups and there will be organized walks around this historic part of London. (01-739 8368)

The National Army Museum, SW1, celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, as well as the 50th anniversary of the British Model Soldier Society. Summer events include plastic modelling, art activities based on museum exhibits, wargaming, and a programme of feature films, newsreels and documentaries. (01-730 0717)

At the Museum of Mankind, W1, from August 19-30, children aged 7 to 12 can have a go at making their own versions of traditional Amazon Indian and Inuit/Eskimo crafts. Films and slides/talks describe the homes and lifestyles of these two very different groups of people. (01-437 2224)

The Inuit way of life is also the theme of an exhibition at the Horniman Museum, SE23. Short summer courses in shadow puppet theatre for 8 to 12-year-olds, International folk dance, and a writers' workshop for 11 to 16-year-olds are also planned. There is a small fee for these courses. The daily workshops, which are free, offer bark paintings, animal masks and head-dress making. (01-699 4911)

An exciting new selection of hands-on experiments and demonstrations will be on display at Test Bed 3, the run up to Launch Pad, a new gallery of interactive exhibits at the Science Museum, SW7, to help visitors explore basic ideas in technology and science. As well as a programme of films on great railway journeys of the world, a summer holiday quiz on dentistry past and present is available in the Museum's medical history galleries. (01-589 3456)

The Family Centre at the Natural History Museum, SW7, until August 30, offers animal brass rubbing, nature quizzes and the chance to look down microscopes. Visitors can also inspect and handle natural history specimens such as bones and fossils. (01-589 6323)

Make a soft toy or paper doll at the Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, E2, on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Talks on the history of dolls will be held on Thursdays. Incidentally, the exhibition of original drawings for the *Peanuts* comic strip continues there until September 1. (01-980 2415)

Authors John Ryan and Judith Kerr will give illustrated talks at the National Gallery, WC2, on August 8 and 22. On August 16 and 23 illustrated readings from a selection of famous children's books will highlight the work of

Arthur Rackham, Edmund Dulac and Beatrix Potter. (01-839 3321)

Conducted tours of the Tate Gallery, SW1, especially designed for 5 to 14-year-olds will be held on August 6, 8, 13 and 15. (01-821 1313)

John Joseph Merlino, the eccentric 18th century inventor and musical instrument maker is celebrated in a summer exhibition at Kenwood House, NW3. A children's workbook based on the life of Merlino and on Gainsborough's portraits, including that of Merlino, is available at the house at a small charge.

Another 18th century personality, Admiral Hosiery, is the subject of a course at Ranger's House, SE10 where he once lived. Music, art and drama, as well as a visit to Chatham dockyards and some fencing sessions are featured. There is still room for 11 to 16-year-olds from August 5-16. (01-853 0035)

Puppet workshops, clown troupe performances, wire-walking, rope spinning and a musical mystery tour are among the popular free outdoor events on the river terraces of the National Theatre which are part of the South Bank Splash. The event culminates in G.L.C. Children's Day on August 11. (01-633 0880)

North of the river at the Barbican Centre, EC2, Summer in the City concludes with a performance of Poulenc's *Barbaric Elephant* and Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* at a children's concert on August 4. Inflatables, giant chess and draughts, clowns and puppets provide more fun and a free late-night performance, with fireworks, of Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks* will take place on August 3 at 10.45pm. (01-638 8891)

The ghosts of Sadler's Wells, EC1, are the theme of one of the many workshops organized by the Community Development Project at the Theatre. Others are classical ballet and jazz dance, mural painting, drama,

opera and a backstage tour. The cost for each day is £1.50. (01-278 6563, ext 23)

Of course, most people don't live in London and they will be pleased to know there is an equally rich choice of activities and events in other parts of the country. Field trips and outings are a particularly popular feature of the summer programmes of museums outside London.

Bristol City Museum, for example, will be taking 9 to 12-year-olds interested in natural history and geology to Aust Cliff and Hock Cliff on August 5. Other trips to the Mendips, Wye Valley and Cotswolds are also arranged. The cost for each is £1.50. Young archaeologists will enjoy a pottery project at Blackley, a medieval site outside Bristol, where replicas of early pottery kilns will be built and fired (August 5-7, £2.50). From August 12-16 at the museum, 7 to 11-year-olds can make their own musical instruments and find out how people in other countries make music. (Bristol 299771)

GLASTONBURY

Children aged 8 to 14 are invited to take part in producing a play with a rural theme during a drama week to be held at the Somerset Rural Life Museum in Glastonbury from August 12-16. The fee is £2.50. (Glastonbury 32903)

DERBY

Derby Museum's introduction to archaeology course for 12 to 16-year-olds on August 14-21 includes a visit to a Viking site at Repton. An unusual event at the museum on August 6 and 12 is a black-out party for stout-hearted 8 to 11-year-olds who would like to find out how people amused themselves during air raids. At the Industrial Museum on August 7 and 20, 4 to 8-year-olds will be able to enjoy watching butter being made, from milking the goat to plungers and butter pats.

Help create a fantasy fish environment at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry until August 9. The project is loosely based on exotic fish and the children (aged mainly 7 to 11) will work with fabrics and paintings. (Coventry 25355)

BIRMINGHAM

Tapestry weaving workshops, based on motifs in the Burne Jones tapestries for anyone over the age of 9 will be held at the Birmingham Museum on August 5 and 6. From August 7-9 a drama workshop for 8 to 13-year-olds

Older children can take part in a walk along the River Derwent observing the natural history and industrial archaeology on August 8. On August 13 and 22 a riverside walk for 8 to 11-year-olds will concentrate on wild flowers. Tickets for these activities cost between 50p and £1. (Derby 31111)

LIVERPOOL

Merseyside County Museum is organizing a family excursion to a local coastal site on August 10 to study the natural history of the seashore. At the museum itself, in William Brown Street, Liverpool, shadow puppet sessions for children aged 9 to 13 will be held from August 19-13. (051 207 0001). The more adventurous can learn what it's like to be an apprentice pilot on board the Edmund Gardner, the Liverpool Pilot Ship at the Merseyside Maritime Museum. Sessions on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays until September 6 can be booked on 051 236 1492.

LEICESTERSHIRE

Weaving demonstrations on tapestry and table looms and the chance to try both weaving and spinning are offered at the Manor House, Donington-le-Heath, Leicestershire from August 7-9. Also in Leicestershire, a reconstruction of life in the first century AD can be explored at Groby Iron Age Farmstead, open to the public until August 23.

COVENTRY

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is linked to the "City at War: Birmingham 1939-1945" exhibition. Other events include demonstrations of wartime crafts and cooking for anyone over the age of nine. A series of embroidery workshops will run from August 12-16. (021 235 2839)

STOWMARKET

The Museum of East Anglian Life at Stowmarket is staging an "Alice in Wonderland" day for schoolchildren on August 28. Admission is 60p and children should come dressed as characters from the book. Over the bank holiday weekend conservation groups will present their work and demonstrations of country crafts will take place. Admission £1.50 adults, 60p children. (0449 612229)

BRADFORD

Bradford Industrial Museum is running Fun with Fibre workshops from August 13-16 for experimenting with wool and other fibres in spinning, weaving, knitting, collage and stitchery. Tickets are £1 for each day. (Bradford 631756). At Cliffe Castle Museum, also from August 13-16, visitors can help to make a model of Keighley, based on the houses, shops and mills to be seen in old photographs and prints. The fee is £2 for four days. (Keighley 64184)

DONCASTER

The resident taxidermist at Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery will give two demonstrations on August 6. A canal trip and picnic with museum staff on August 7 will highlight the local history and wildlife of the Doncaster to Kirk Bramwith Canal.

CARDIFF

The National Museum of Wales in Cardiff is staging Roman and Medieval re-enactments, brass rubbing and hand spinning sessions for children aged 7-13. At the Welsh Folk Museum in nearby St Fagons, demonstrations of traditional crafts by craftsmen from all parts of Wales are held on Saturdays in August. (0222 397951)

GLASGOW

The Burrell Collection in Glasgow has an exhibition of school children's art work until August 16. At Haggis Castle Museum a full programme of entertainments for children is planned, including a Recorder Play-in for 8 to 12-year-olds. (041 427 2725)

EDINBURGH

The Edinburgh Festival Fringe from August 9-31 offers a dazzling array of children's shows. 031 226 5257. The Royal Scottish Museum, is holding "Guess What?" competitions until August 31, and a free programme of films. A further attraction. (031 225 7534).

Finally, two nationwide organizations it's well worth joining and keeping in touch with for interesting day-out: English Heritage and the National Trust.

A number of special events for members of Keep, the junior section of English Heritage, will take place this month. Membership is £4 and children under 16 can join at any of the museums. At Grimes Graves in Norfolk, "Keep Knapping" on August 10 will explain how to work flint. On August 18 at Wroxeter Roman city in Shropshire there's the chance to learn about excavations and take part in a dig. Helmsley Castle in North Yorkshire is holding an Elizabethan Day on August 21. English Heritage, PO Box 43, Ruislip, Middx.

A wide variety of events at National Trust properties are likely to appeal to children. Among these are sheep dog trials at Wimpole Hall, Arrington on August 3 and 4 and at Chertwell on August 9.

There's obviously a lot going on out there, and much that unfortunately hasn't been possible to mention. Visit your local museum or art gallery and see what's happening, and have a happy holiday!

Young citizens

Many children see little of their town beyond their own small world of home and school, and a weekly visit to the shopping centre with mum. To enlarge their horizons and to start them exploring Milton Keynes has begun a pilot project called Young Citizen.

In eight schools, these with eleven birthdays were last term given a pack of materials. There is a large poster map for the wall; a badge to wear and an identity card; a large scale map of their own part of the city, at 1:5,000 scale (showing each house); fifteen Action Pages, with things to do in My Garden, My Neighbourhood and My City and a list of places in Milton Keynes where children can go and collect a sticker to add to the wall-map. These include the railway stations, libraries, leisure centres and police stations.

The working party that has provided the pack includes members of the Development Corporation, the borough and county councils, the Urban Studies Centre, the Play Association and the Thames Valley Police. Funding has come from the Development Corporation and the Education Department of Buckinghamshire County Council. The project will be monitored in detail in preparation for the full scheme next year, when some 2,500 children reach eleven in Milton Keynes Borough.

More Action Pages will be added, throughout the year. The packs are designed not for school use but for spare time, and the team hopes that children will use them with friends and family, or as members of youth clubs. However, there is plenty to do for the child with few friends or little family support who is not allowed to roam very far.

Coordinator for Young Citizen is Cande Loxton at the Urban Studies Centre, 553 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes.

Through the enterprise of 19-year-old Anne Barrowcliffe, a first year undergraduate reading PPE at Keele College, Oxford, Britain is to have its first astronomy camp from August 9 to 16, at Presdon Montford Field Centre, Shropshire. Anne says "the camp is intended for a wide mix of 16 to 24-year-olds, but there are no strict age limits." Anne, who comes from Sheffield, has been a keen amateur astronomer since the age of eight when she was given her first three inch refractor telescope. She is fascinated by the contribution that amateur astronomers can make even today, when most sciences are far beyond any amateur participation.

She is basing the camp on the cooperative philosophy of the International Astronomical Youth camps (IAYC), two of which she has attended. There will be small working groups of about nine, each having a leader and devising its own work programmes. Topics will partly depend on the interest and expertise of participants, but broadly will cover three areas. The first is comet theory and observation: weather permitting, Halley's Comet will be studied and theories regarding the origins of comets and ways of finding out more about them (such as from telescopic observation and the Giotto probe being launched in July) will be discussed.

For the second topic, meteors, telescopes are not necessary and the period around August 12, when the moon is not full, will be a good time for meteor observation. The third topic covers solar astronomy: provided the weather is kind the group will devise methods of observing the sun and will combine its observations and theory to build up a picture of the sun's behaviour.

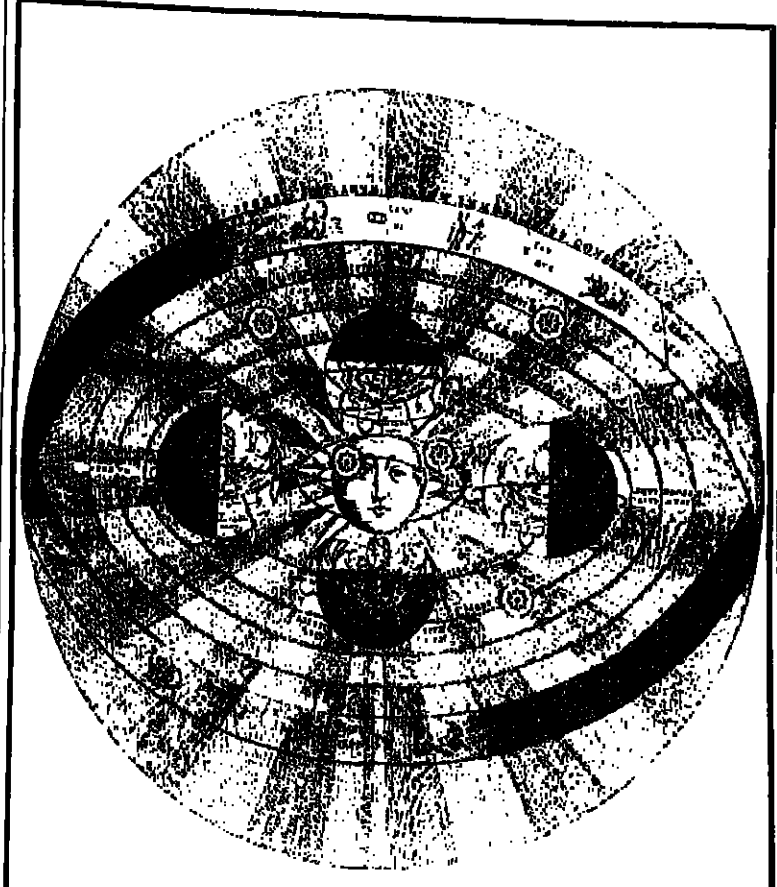
Anne hopes to set up organized observation sessions at night. This, she says, can be great fun and, if there are two groups working 30 kilometres apart, can produce accurate results.

The camp has the blessing of the Junior Astronomical Society. Several JAS members will participate, including the Vice-President Robin Scagell, and the Secretary, solar astronomer

RESOURCES

Eyes on the stars

Peta Levi on an astronomy camp



specialist Martin Ratcliffe.

Anne has received a £750 grant from the Science and Engineering Research Council and £210 from private donations and is expecting some financial help from the Holmes Hines Memorial Fund. The camp is a non-profit-making

venture; currently the cost is £70 for the week, but the more funds she receives the more she can bring down the basic cost. For further information write: Anne Barrowcliffe, 111 Millhouses Lane, Sheffield, South Yorkshire S7 2HD.

notes

INTERNATIONAL LINK

Priory secondary school, Weston-super-Mare announced this week that it has been chosen to represent Britain in an experiment in the use of international Information Technology links as part of the work of the ANTEM group established in 1982 following the Versailles heads of states conference. Together with Garth Hill School in Bracknell, Priory is to pioneer the British end of a unique link between computers in 20 schools in Canada, three in France, and two in Italy. The project, called "Kids-to-Kids: an Electronic Open House", makes use of a facility known as computer teleconferencing.

With this facility Priory pupils will be able to request information on a topic of interest by typing it into the school's computer. The request will then be sent to all the school's involved in the four countries so that the children there can reply if they have the relevant information. To make this possible all the schools have been linked via a computer at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada.

READING

"Micro-Exploration: Using Language and Reading Software", a booklet edited by Frank Potter and David Wray, has recently been published by the United Kingdom Reading Association.

The booklet, which costs £1.50 (or £1 to members of UKRA), contains articles on using specific types of programs, on word processing and on group work. It can be obtained from The Administrative Secretary of UKRA, Edge Hill College of HE, St Helen's Road, Ormskirk, Lancs L39 4QP.

MEDIA

Introspective viewing

by Robin Buss

The World - a Television History
Of 10 parts
from July 31.

There was once a (very) short film called *All the World's Art in Three Minutes*, the title being a reasonably accurate description of the contents. A television history of the world in 26 episodes suggests a similar enterprise: the last ten parts, which Channel Four will be broadcasting from July 31 to October 2, cover the period from 1453 to 1985 in under five hours. *All the World's Art in Three Minutes* started as a confusing jumble of shapes and colours before resolving itself into a significant pattern. *The World - a Television History* may do the same.

The pictures are certainly as important as the words. The series draws on all the resources of the television image to sketch, (taking an example from Programme 17), the significance of agricultural improvements in Northern Europe, the counter-flow of grain from the North and wealth from the Mediterranean.

The *Times Atlas of World History*, on which the series is based, supplies some of the visual inspiration, but the maps move: scenes, documents and other or emerge from the centre of the screen to perform various contortions before us. To God, it may all be but as the twinkling of an eye, but God has resources denied to the average viewer. A blink could cost you the title of the Counter-Reformation.

The compression of time leads to anachronisms, though not always unhelpful. Scenes of Trooping the Colour, against a commentary on the development of military manoeuvres

and standing armies in the 16th century, make the first links in a suggestive chain. On the other hand, to say that the monarchs of the border were running a "protection racket", especially in a survey as sweeping as this, establishes the wrong kind of connection.

There is the occasional visual pun and some familiar tricks: using footage from Renoir's *La Marseillaise* (1937) to illustrate the French Revolution, because black-and-white film has a spurious authenticity when it evokes distant events. But the central aim of the series is to imprint broad pictures and while real understanding can only come, eventually, from criticising their inadequacies, the big pictures are a necessary stage in a process.

The films are enlightening when they link what you know to something you didn't (with the proviso that you know something). It is essential to make sense of this rapid succession of facts and ideas; and the series as a whole is laudable because any global view is a corrective to the nation-centred history usually taught in schools. Episode 17 reaches a conclusion about the rise of Europe and this theme is developed in the two following programmes, "The West and the Wider World" (Aug. 7) and "Asia" (Aug. 14).

The linking of events in different parts of the world and in different fields (economic, political, cultural) often provides real insights, and avoiding the smugness of the James Burke version of "all the world's history between teatime and bedtime", these global assertions seem to open the way to the closer study that will confirm or deny them.

"If we're the future . . ."

by Marian Blakeley

Young Lives

Radio 4

Young Lives was a series of three programmes specially put together to mark International Youth Year and broadcast on consecutive Sunday evenings in July. By means of interviews with young people themselves and with those involved with their future - teachers, parents and others - the programmes examined the ways in which problems faced by young people in the eighties differ from those of previous eras. The topics covered were: "Parents", "Leaving School", "Homes and Homelessness".

The series was not entirely a happy compilation, bearing some marks of confusion as to what sort of programme it was trying to be: a simple collage of young people speaking for themselves, or an analysis-type investigation of the plight of young people today?

It is hardly surprising that the listener was left in a bit of a daze about where each programme was leading when, for example, Programme 1, entitled "Parents" touched on marriage breakdown, battered wives, the next generation's attitude to child rearing, battered children, difficulties between generations caused by cultural differences, the problems of working mothers, the difficulties of young people in care, incest, petty crime and detention centres.

Radio 4 listeners were parents in their forties, with her references to how different things were "for us in our day". Some of her descriptions of speakers also came across as condescending.

It was, however, salutary to learn that there are 10 million young people in this country between the ages of 15 and 25, all eventually hoping for jobs; that four times as many children are affected by divorce nowadays; that there are 56 thousand homeless young people in Britain. It is important, too, that more of us should be aware of the educators' efforts to work out better ways of preparing youngsters for adulthood: the TVEI pilot project, with its emphasis on vocational subjects was mentioned. Programme 5 (Homes and Homelessness) highlighted the rules and regulations that control the lives of the young homeless unemployed, such as the iniquitous Board and Lodging Regulations which require youngsters to move on after they have claimed for eight or four weeks bed and breakfast accommodation.

Other less telling but perhaps more fascinating details included the fact that McDonald's is now the largest

employer of young people in the United States. In this country 9,000 of their employees are under 21.

Such statistics as these helped to put into perspective the personal experiences and opinions which formed the bulk of the programmes. It was the wonderfully sane voices of the young people themselves that made the programmes such good listening value. Whether it was the girl in the first programme speaking with compassion and understanding of the breakdown of her parents' marriage, or the young Irishman on the last programme talking with humour and horror of his experiences trying to find accommodation in London, the general impression left by the star speakers of *Young Lives* was one of optimism. If they can survive the ill-luck of coming to adulthood in the harsh mid-eighties, there should not be too much to worry about in the long term. Perhaps we should all have more faith in the next generation. As one girl put it: "They keep saying we're the future, but they're not willing to let us start making a future for ourselves. If we're the future, why not let us be it?"

4

Titles Available For Recording From Sunday 4th August 1985.

Approximate Transmission Times

Monday 5th August
8.15pm Design Matters. How Can We Cope With Change? - Repeaters For Code C
4.00pm When Time Is In A Pinch: Secret: After the Rites - Repeaters For Code B

Tuesday 6th August
3.30pm Ape King: We Can Do - Series B: From To Chilling - Repeaters For Code B

Wednesday 7th August
6.00pm Values: Landscapes & Legends: 'Venus of the World' Part 2 For Code B
8.00pm The World-A TV History: Asia & The West For Code E

Friday 9th August
8.15pm Shape of Africa For Code B

Saturday 10th August
1.00pm Nations in Focus For Code B
1.30pm Eyes: Thought of Sports: Compiling A Backward - Repeaters For Code A
4.15pm Features By Stars For Code C

For more information consult

GAIL LACHANCE
8 RIVER ROAD, PETERBOROUGH PE1 0TB
(0753) 316316
Late Changes (0753) 316102

(0643)

29

FFIELD
HONORABLE BOARD OF
PICKENS COUNTY SCHOOL
AND Comprehensive, Group
Elementary and Junior High
required for September, an
enthusiastic Graduate teacher
SOCIALLY and to join a
the department, with a
virtually ability to teach up
and including A level.
The post offers an excellent
opportunity for either prob-
ationers or teachers wishing
to broaden their experience.
The school opens in September
following the amalgama-
tion of the Amos and Min-
ner schools and will be
both sites for two years
before moving to be on the
one site. The school is very
ill equipped and has excel-

NOR 720 (140) In Sixth

135022
 34)

Required for September
or as soon as possible

**BLACKPOOL
INTERMEDIATE
TREATMENT DAY
CENTRE
Blackpool**

1st September 1985 or
soon as possible there-
er.

**SCALE 3 - TO WORK
WITH YOUNG OFFEN-
DERS REFERRED BY THE
COURTS.**

(Previous applicants
will be re-considered).

Forms/further details
Form/ta to the District

PHYSICAL EDUCATION
TEACHER FOR
further details
District Education
55-60 Guildhall
Preston. (SAE
date for BOTH
15th August,
(177776) 135660

must be refiled by August 1988.

for Mathematics with an
le by 16th August, 1988.

**Youth and
Community Service**

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYMENT
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
YOUTH WORKER
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
INC 3, (4 - 8) £8,585 -
£9,651**

Applications are invited for
suitably qualified and experi-
enced youth and community
workers or teachers for
above neighbourhood youth

time workers in a predominantly rural area. He/she has a wide range of youth work skills and a particular interest in the needs of rural young people. A commitment to all forms of youth work is essential.

Further details and a recommendation form please stamped addressed envelope to the Chief Education Officer, Leicestershire County Council, P.O. Box 22, Aylestone Highways, Leicester LE2 9LW. Your application form should be accompanied by a recent photograph and a letter of recommendation from a professional person.

Janet Winton, Youth Officer, Leicestershire 5000, Education Department, 755, Closing date for applications 16 August 1985.

Leicestershire is a re-adaptation of the original advertisement and is a re-adaptation of the original advertisement.

Le Mitan Borough

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

opening date 16th August 1988.
 OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER (5048)

COUNTY COUNCIL
 Department
 first
 "ACHED"
 "H &
 UNITY

Grade: JNC3 (1-5) Salary: £7,866-£8,844 p.a.

The Youth and Community Worker will be "Semi-Detached" in that he/she will be required to develop a comprehensive response to the needs of young people using The Link Centre which is owned and managed by the District Council.

Wiltshire County Council are breaking new ground in appointing a Youth and Community Worker to The Link Centre, in the Western Expansion Area Swindon. This Centre is thought to be the first in Great Britain to provide, under one roof:

- An Ice Rink, Swimming Pool, Large Sports Hall,
- Other sports orientated spaces, a Library, Art Workshops, a Drama and Dance Studio, and a Youth and Community Suite.

Candidates should be qualified and experienced Youth and Community Workers, preferably with some experience in outreach work, but more importantly with an enthusiasm to work with young people in this unconventional setting unfettered by the direct responsibility for the management of the building.

Application form and further details from the Chief Education Officer, County Hall, Trowbridge, Wills., BA14 8JB, tel. 02214-3641, ext. 2454, quoting ref. E.85.347, returnable by 30th August, 1986.

Informal enquiries may be made to Mr. D. T. Ainscough, Senior Assistant Youth & Community Services Officer.

Closing date for completed app

**Youth and
Community Service**

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYMENT
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
YOUTH WORKER
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ridge, Wilts, BA14 8JB,
tling ref. E.85.347, retur-

YOUTH & COMMUNITY
continuedDERBYSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCILDISTRICT YOUTH AND
COMMUNITY WORKER

Required: a **PETER WESTER** Centre, a qualified and experienced worker to be responsible for the development, supervision and support of youth and community provision in the Centre and surrounding area.

Salary scale JNC 3 & 4 - £8,555 - £10,551.

Applications form and further details from Mr. S. Stockwell, District Youth and Community Education Officer, Newbold Road, Chesterfield S41 2AA. Tel: Chesterfield 204851.

Closing date: 16 August 1985.

Derbyshire County Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 440000

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY
SERVICE WORKER

£10,491-£11,688

An experienced and qualified Youth Worker or Teacher is required for the Northfleet Sports and Youth Centre. This senior and challenging post offers scope for the introduction of a wide range of sports and general activities, with an underlying social educational approach. The person appointed will have responsibility for directing the work of an assistant professional worker, and a large team of part-time staff, within this large, purpose-built centre. Salary Range is JNC Range 4 Points 6-9 plus additional increment after Point 9. The additional increment after Point 9 is in recognition of the duties and responsibilities of this demanding post.

A Staff Development Policy provides for in-service training, formal and informal support structures. The Divisional Youth and Community Service Officer, Mr E. Tingey, will be pleased to discuss the post informally (telephone Gravesend 64701).

Application form and further details returnable by 16th August from the Divisional Education Officer, Divisional County Offices, 132 Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

Vocational Training Council
HONG KONGLecturer
(Motor Vehicle Engineering)

Qualifications

- (1) a relevant technical qualification, e.g. City and Guild Full Technological Certificate in an appropriate discipline; OR
- (2) fulfilled the academic requirements for corporate membership of an appropriate professional institution
- (3) relevant post-graduate industrial or teaching experience in either case; OR
- (4) corporate membership of an appropriate recognised professional institution; OR
- (5) a relevant degree from a Hong Kong or British relevant post-degree industrial or teaching experience; or
- (6) 6 years' relevant post-degree experience.

Conditions

The post attracts a monthly salary of HK\$9,395 - HK\$13,565 per month (£1 = HK\$10.60 as at 10th July 1985 but this is subject to fluctuation) depending on qualification and experience. The appointee will be offered an initial contract of 2 years inclusive of leave, plus 25% terminal gratuity upon satisfactory completion of the agreement. Thereafter the appointee may be offered either contract or supernumerary term at the discretion of the Vocational Training Council. Fringe benefits include leave and passages, housing, medical and dental treatments, children's education allowances and school passages.

Application

Application forms are obtainable personally or by telephone from the Hong Kong Government Office, 6 Grafton Street, London W1X 3LB (Tel. No. 01-499 9821 Ext. 259). The completed application forms should be returned direct to the Executive Director, Vocational Training Council, 15/F, Harbour Centre, 25 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong to reach him before 23 August 1985.

DORSET

DAKEMAD YOUTH CLUB
Applications are invited from fully qualified and experienced persons for the post of Full-Time Teacher-in-Charge, to commence in September 1985. Salary: JNC Range 3 & 4 - £7,264 - £9,330.

Removal expenses may be paid in approved cases. Details and application forms available from the Staffing Officer, Education Officer, Portsmouth House, Richmond Hill, Bournemouth BH2 6ER, on receipt of a.s.p. Closing date: 21st August (1975).

LONDON

FULL-TIME ASSISTANT YOUTH WORKER - JNC Scale 2
Required for busy Youth Club in Marylebone offering a range of physical and creative activities.

Job Description and application form from: The Organising Secretary, Featherstone House, 15 Rosemary Road, London NW1 6NJ. Tel: 723 9167. Further information contact Mr. J. S. Sneyd, 723 9167. Further information contact Mr. J. S. Sneyd, 723 9167.

Closing date: 16 August 1985.

Derbyshire County Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 440000

DERBYSHIRE

HIGH PEAK DISTRICT
COMMUNITY SERVICEYOUTH AND
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT WORKER

(full time)

Required for the end of September 1985, for the New Mills area, based at the New Mills Youth and Community Centre.

The successful candidate will be a professional with a degree in social work, youth work, or a related discipline, and will be responsible for the supervision of the Senior Worker at New Mills, to develop and coordinate a range of activities for young people in the area.

New Mills Youth and Community Centre is a wide range of community groups as well as having an exciting programme of youth provision. The Development Worker will be expected to work with existing youth and community groups in New Mills and the surrounding area, with the support of the Senior Worker and part-time staff team.

J.N.C. conditions of service apply.

Salary Range 3 Points 2 to 6 (currently £8,103 to £9,177).

For an informal discussion please contact Graham J. Sneyd, 723 9167. Further information contact Mr. J. S. Sneyd, 723 9167.

Application forms and further details are available from the Education Officer, Buxton SK17 6BJ. Tel: Buxton 6121. Interviews should be arranged by 16th August 1985. Interviews are arranged for September 18th 1985.

Closing date: 30th August 1985.

Derbyshire County Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 440000

Overseas
Appointments

BARCELONA

Experienced and T.E.F.L. qualified teachers required for Language Schools in Gerona Province.

Please send full C.V. and photo to Mr. M. Bayes, Rambla de Catalunya 112, 08002 (19750).

CENTRAL PORTUGAL

Small provincial language school requires T.E.F.L. teachers to start early October. Preference given to candidates with 2 years' experience in teaching English as a second language, or R.S.A. and some experience, preferably abroad.

Apply to: The English Supervisor, Instituto de Língua de Tomar, Instituto de Língua de Tomar, 17583.

CHRISTIAN
TEACHERS
FOR AFRICA

To teach Biology, Chemistry, Agriculture, Maths, Arts and Commercial Subjects. Secondary level. Good salary, pension, medical, housing, and other benefits. Two year contract - air fares, professional course, insurance, and overseas allowance provided. Apply to: Volunteer Missionary Centre, 15, St. Albans, Herts. AL1 1AA. Tel: 0438 555555 (0747) 440000 (17283).

EAST MALAYSIA

KINABALU INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
Requires a Junior Teacher to start January 1986. The appointee must be primary trained, qualified teacher, with at least three years' experience of primary teaching. Salary approximately £8,000 per annum depending on experience. Two year contract.

Apply with full curriculum vitae, photograph, names and addresses of three referees to the Principal, Kinabalu International School, P.O. Box 20, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, East Malaysia. (17706) 450000

EGYPT

ST. FATIMA LANGUAGE SCHOOL
Requires qualified teachers of (1) English and (2) Arabic for the 1985-86 session from October 1985.

Interviews will be held at LONDON HOUSE, Mackintosh Square, London WC1N 3AB, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on August 19th, 20th and 21st, when contracts will be signed for suitable candidates. Please bring original and two copies of qualifications. 450000

Inspectorate Adviser
(Mathematics)
Kenya

Kenya is in the process of implementing a major change in its educational system, which will involve adding an additional year to primary education. Six zonal teams have been established with the aim of covering the fifteen primary teachers' colleges; the vacancy exists in the Primary Curriculum and Teacher Education Project, which has been established to implement these changes.

Responsible to the Chief Inspector of Schools, and working with associate British Inspectors and Kenyan counterparts, the post is designed to fit a wider pattern of assistance aimed at helping to improve the quality of teaching in the core subjects at primary level.

Specific duties will be the management of the project; assisting with the implementation of the new Mathematics Curriculum; conducting of in-service seminars and workshops; and producing relevant resource materials in order to update the skills needed to teach mathematics successfully.

Applicants should be British Citizens, aged 30-50, and be professionally qualified graduate teachers with a major in mathematics as a teaching subject and a minimum of seven years teaching experience in a primary school and/or a teachers college. Knowledge of curriculum development and school supervision is essential and similar experience in developing countries would be an advantage.

The appointment is on contract to ODA, on loan to the Government of Kenya for a period of 2-3 years. Salary (UK taxable) is £18,385 pa, including an element in lieu of superannuation. A variable tax free Foreign Service Allowance, currently in the range £1,280 to £3,246 pa, is also payable.

The post is wholly financed by the British Government under Britain's programme of Aid to the developing countries. Other benefits normally include paid leave, free family passages, children's education allowances, free accommodation and medical attention.

For full details and application form, please apply within 21 days, quoting ref. AH309/SL/TES, stating post concerned and giving details of age, qualifications and experience to: Appointments Officer, Overseas Development Administration, Room 381, Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Road, EAST KILBRIDE, Glasgow G78 8EA.

**OVERSEAS
ODA DEVELOPMENT**
Britain helping nations to help themselves

ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
TEACHERS
TAX-FREE OPPORTUNITIES
IN SAUDI ARABIA

British Aerospace has continuing requirements for qualified male English Language Teachers to join our staff in Saudi Arabia and teach English to students and cadets beginning their training in the Royal Saudi Air Force.

These are excellent opportunities for experienced teachers to earn high salaries which will be tax-free, subject to completing a minimum of one year's service in Saudi Arabia. Those appointed will be working in well equipped educational facilities as part of our large British expatriate staff.

Applicants must be UK citizens under the age of 50 whose mother tongue is English. The minimum qualifications for these posts are either a degree with Language or Linguistics as a subject or a Teacher Training Certificate (one year post-graduate or 3 years non-graduate) in any subject. If the subject is not a language, then a TEFL qualification is a further requirement. We are also looking for at least 3 years' experience of TEFL.

In addition to the high tax-free salary, successful candidates will receive free accommodation, messing, medical care, life assurance and other benefits, including travel-paid UK leave.

Please apply in writing giving brief details of experience quoting reference 039/TES to: The Personnel Officer, Saudi Arabia Support Dept., FREEPOST, British Aerospace (Aircraft), Warton Division, Warton Aerodrome, Preston, Lancs PR4 1LA or telephone Preston 634317.

**BRITISH
AEROSPACE**
IN SAUDI ARABIA

OVERSEAS POSTS
continued

EGYPT

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EGYPT

CAIRO
English-run school seeks Primary teachers and science specialists. One-year contract. Salary £10,000-12,000. Apply to: ECIM 48X, (17728) 450000

FRANCE

French school, French teachers vacancy for a trainee teachers (language and literature) to start in September 1985. Salary £10,000-12,000. Apply to: ECIM 48X, (17728) 450000

GREECE

English teaching post vacant. Experience and/or T.E.F.L. qualifications preferred. Contact Mr. T. E. F. L. (17965) 450000

INDIA

MUSCOBIE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

New residential school for the foreign pupils, situated at Muscobie, a hill station resort at foot of Himalayas. A modern, well equipped school, offering a curriculum internationally. Designed by an Architect. Grounds 5 acres. 1983 on land. 27 acres with first class accommodation facilities. Heated indoor pool, full equipped, two mini-tennis courts, 3 year contract. Salary £10,000-12,000. Apply to: Muscobie International School, 132 Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent. Tel: 0474 64701 (17965) 450000

INDONESIA

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL

Part time English teacher required for hotel staff. Salary £10,000-12,000. Apply to: International Hotel, 132 Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent. Tel: 0474 64701 (17965) 450000

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ITALY

Long established and professional language schools group in North Italy requires experienced teachers of English, Italian, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Japanese, and other languages. Salary £10,000-12,000. Apply to: Italian Language Schools, 132 Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent. Tel: 0474 64701 (17965) 450000

NORTH ITALY

TEFL. North Italy. Firstaid Services are looking for experienced TEFL Teachers for posts in Turin and Milan from September 1985.

13 month contract including possibility of renewal. The successful candidates are likely to:

Be aged between 24 and 40. Have a degree and TEFL certificate (RSA or equivalent).

Have at least two years experience of teaching in a field of continuing education. Initiative in coping with problems in the classroom.

A good salary plus free accommodation or living allowance is offered to the right people.

Please apply in your own handwriting enclosing CV, contact telephone number, photograph and references from previous employers to: Firstaid Services, 132 Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent. Tel: 0474 64701 (17965) 450000

MADRID-SERRA

TEFL. qualified graduate with experience required Oct-June. Salary £10,000-12,000. Apply to: Serra, 132 Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent. Tel: 0474 64701 (17965) 450000

JAPAN

INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

SHINJUKU BUILDING
10-7, Dogenzaka 8-chome, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 150
Tel: (03) 430 5395, Cable International Fax (03) 433 7089

TEACH IN JAPAN

Persons with a degree or job-experience in fields of engineering, business administration, mathematics, linguistics, law, medicine, etc. are invited to teach English in Japan. Salary £10,000-12,000. Apply to: International Services, 132 Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent. Tel: 0474 64701 (17965) 450000

Further information on the above courses, co-ordinating the existing programme for service English; supervising the work of ODA support materials. Reference: 85 K 41T

Post 2: English Language Adviser,
University of Conakry and Higher
Education Faculties in Guinea

Duties: In consultation with the KELT Head of Project to be responsible for advising on and participating in teaching of methodology courses at Conakry University and other higher education institutions in Guinea; advising on course design and materials for language specialist courses at the University and for service English courses at other institutions; conducting regular staff training sessions; assisting with development of courses for civil servants and some Conakry University staff and conducting in-service teacher training sessions for teachers of these courses; liaison with other centres teaching English to adults in Conakry.

Reference: 85 K 42T

Special Qualifications (for Posts 1 & 2):

Candidates, preferably aged 30-50, must have degree in English/Modern Languages plus TEFL/ RSA Dip. TEFL plus MA Applied Linguistics/ TESOL; at least five years' experience of TEFL overseas, particularly in Francophone Africa, and good written and spoken French.

Also essential for Post 1: teacher training for secondary education; for Post 2: teacher training and ESP at University level.

Salary: £11,683-£12,438 per annum.

Overseas Allowances: £816-£8,881 per annum depending on salary level and marital status.

West Bank

Director of Studies (ELT),
Modern Languages Institute (MLI),
Birzeit University

Duties: overall responsibility for ELT and related activities in the MLI including preparation of all internal ELT related activities and external programmes as appropriate; course evaluation; materials preparation; establishment of a resource centre; staff management; advising, as necessary, on other language sections of the MLI.

Special Qualifications: candidates, preferably aged 35-55, must possess a first degree and have a Master's degree in TEFL/Applied Linguistics; at least seven years' relevant experience; similar high level experience in the Arab world an advantage; knowledge of Arabic useful.

Salary: £11,683-£12,438 per annum.

Overseas Allowances: £487-£7,489 depending on salary level and marital status.

Reference: 85 K 20T

General Qualifications: candidates must be UK citizens with a British educational background;

Benefit: salary free of UK income tax; free family passages; children's education allowances and holiday visits; free furnished accommodation; out-of-pocket allowance; employer's contribution to a recognised superannuation scheme or an allowance of 11 per cent of salary in lieu.

Contracts: initially for two years with the British Council. Posts tenable from September 1985 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Closing date for applications: 23 August 1985.

Sudan

Adviser in English Language Teaching,
Sudan National Centre for Languages
(SNCL), Khartoum

Duties: to work with colleagues in the design of the SNCL's courses for nominees for overseas training; to participate in the development of other ESP courses for local institutions; to assist in the

continued development of the SNCL's one year TEFL Diploma course for practising intermediate teachers of English; to participate in the components of the University of Khartoum's one year postgraduate Diploma for secondary school teachers which are undertaken by the SNCL; to teach up to a maximum of eight hours per week.

Special Qualifications: candidates, preferably aged 30-45, should have a first degree plus a one year postgraduate TEFL qualification and five years' English teaching experience including ESP, some teacher training and at least two years' overseas. Familiarity with ESP materials design, Arab world experience and a knowledge of Arabic are desirable.

Salary: £11,045-£13,565.

Overseas Allowances: £20-£4,020 depending on salary scale and marital status.

Closing date for applications: 12 August 1985.

Reference: 85 K 25T

The following Posts are also funded
under Britain's Aid programme to
developing countries

Burma

Post 1: Senior Lecturer in English,
Department of English, University of
RangoonPost 2: Senior Lecturer in English,
Department of English, University of
Mandalay

Duties: to advise and assist Heads of Department on planning the content and methodology of courses for English majors; to teach a major part of the MA courses; to contribute to teaching the English majors of the BA courses; to advise and assist the Heads of Department in deploying Burmese staff returning from training in the UK; to help plan and run in-house staff development courses; to collaborate with other British ELT Specialists in Burma; to design and run in-service training seminars for teachers of English.

Special Qualifications: candidates, preferably aged 35-45, should have a first degree, a postgraduate teaching qualification and an MA in Applied Linguistics or TEFL. They should have five years' relevant overseas experience, including three at University level and desirably teacher training in South East Asia.

Salary: £11,683-£12,438 per annum.

Overseas Allowances: nil-£2,827 depending on salary level and marital status.

Closing date for applications: 14 August 1985.

Reference: 85 K 33-34T

General Qualifications: for all of the above ODA funded posts candidates must be UK citizens with a British educational background;

Benefit: salary free of UK income tax; free family passages; children's education allowances, and holiday visits; free furnished accommodation; out-of-pocket allowance; employer's contribution to a recognised superannuation scheme or an allowance of 11 per cent of salary in lieu.

Contracts: initially for two years with the British Council. Sudan and Burma posts tenable from September 1985.

For further details and an application form, please write, quoting the post reference number to: Overseas Educational Appointments Department, The British Council, 80-81 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT.

MALAYSIA

THE ALICE SMITH
SCHOOL

Kuala Lumpur

MISCELLANEOUS continued

MANCHESTER DIOCESAN COUNCIL

MANCHESTER DIOCESAN COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION
The post of
DIOCESAN DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
will become vacant in November

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced women or men, lay or ordained.

Full details may be obtained from The Chairman of the Council, The Very Revd. Robert Watkinson, Manchester Diocesan Council for Education, Room 201, Church House, 90 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2LS.

The closing date for applications will be August 30th. Interviews will be held in mid-September. (17945) 560000

MONTESSORI OPPORTUNITIES

S.E. TUTOR
Full time from September to work on N.N.E.S. Child Care Course. Previous N.N.E.S. experience helpful. Burnham scale.

EDUCATIONAL GRADUATES
Urgently required to mark international correspondence. Course scripts working from home. Standard scale.

Telephone or write to The Registrar for further details, London Montessori Centre, 214, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LJ. Tel: 01-493 0165. (17945) 560000

NORTH LONDON FULL-TIME FUNDRAISER

Are you — An outgoing person?
— Concerned for young people at risk?
— Prepared to work hard for them?
— A car driver?

If the answer to these questions is YES, you could be the person for us.

The National Children's Home needs you to work full-time raising funds and promoting a wide range of caring services.

NCH is a Christian-based organisation.

Please ring Chris Kitchin (Harpenden 05827 67795) for application form and job description.

Outdoor Education

CUMBRIA OUTWARD BOUND
A single male or female permanent instructor/tutor is required for October 1985. Applicants must be 24 years of age, experienced mountaineers with a genuine interest in residential work with young people.
Application form and further details from: The Principal, Outward Bound, Skelton, Holmrook, Cumbria CA19 7TE. Closing date 26th August 1985. (17572) 560000

CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
EDUCATION CENTRE
Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons for the post of **OUTDOOR EDUCATION TEACHER**. This is a temporary one year full-time post effective from 1 January 1986 or as soon as possible. Burnham Scale 2.
Successful candidate should be well qualified and competent in outdoor education and able to work independently. The Centre will be the operational base, sharing in the leadership of courses mounted by this and other Cumbria L.E.A. centres will form part of the work.
Further details and application forms available from The Director of Education, 5 Portland Square, Carlisle CA1 1PU (a.s. please) to whom completed forms should be returned by 16 August 1985. (17774) 560000

LEICESTERSHIRE

HELGRAVE PLAYHOUSE
Requires part-time, full-time or outdoor pupils (JNC3 20 hours pro-rata). Driving licence. Governing body qualifications desirable.
S.A.E. for further details to 132 Harpenden, Leicestershire LE19 5JG. Closing date 19th August 1985. (17945) 560000

WINDERMERE

Outdoor Management Tutor. Needs to have management training experience. Opportunity to join a rapidly developing Centre.
Apply in writing with C.V. to: David Moore, Dovecroft Management Centre, 956 5454. (17884) 560000

Y.M.C.A.

Y.M.C.A. NATIONAL CENTRE FAIRTHORNE MANOR
STAFF DIRECTOR/TUTOR
Do you have the interpersonal skills necessary to relate to and meet the needs of a young, lively and motivated staff team? Responsibilities include recruitment, in-service training, work review and welfare needs. A senior staff position providing an ideal career opportunity for someone with a successful managerial experience in outdoor education, development training and good interpersonal skills. The person appointed will be expected to tutor part-time Christian commitment is essential.
V.M.C.A. Scale 3.
Further details: The Director, Y.M.C.A. National Centre, Fairthorne Manor, Curdridge, Southampton SO3 2GH. Closing date 19/8/85. (17815) 560000

English as a Foreign Language

BOURNEMOUTH

MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL
REB COURSES ATTICE

Learn to teach English as a foreign language. Teacher Training Centre, Bournemouth. The Centre runs regular week introductory courses leading to the Royal Society of Arts Preparatory Certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language.

For details write to: 674 Windermere, Bournemouth or Tel: (0202) 555337. (34156) 700000

SURREY

PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION SERVICES
ESP specialists on the PCF register. Please note our change of address: The Sanctuary, 33 Oakhill, Woking, Surrey KT6 6DU.
To register with PCF please write to the above address for an application form. (17575) 700000

OXFORD

OXFORD HOUSE
Oxford
RBA Preparatory Certificate
1985
Part-time course October 1985
For further details contact: Mrs. C. D. Jones, Oxford House, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. (17945) 700000

ITALY

72 British Schools require 2 EFL teachers in N.W. Zone. Degree plus R.B.A. prep min. requirement. October appointment. Initial information from Mr Taylor, Harpenden (05827 67795). (17945) 700000

SHREFFIELD

CITY OF SHEFFIELD EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
3555 MALE GRANGE SCHOOL
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Please apply by letter to the Headteacher at the school. (17571) 710000

WALSAIL

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
Industrial Language Training Unit
Three vacancies exist to join the team which promotes, organises and teaches language use and cultural awareness in the work environment. A casual user car also post.
LECTURER II
To promote and develop courses in language awareness and cultural awareness. Public Service Organisation. Services: D.I.C. etc. and advise and assist other teachers. Experience of this type of work preferred.
To develop and plan new language courses linked with specific design and engineering. Lecturer. Experience of this type of work preferred.
To develop courses in language awareness and cultural awareness for industry and Public Service Organisation. The successful candidate should possess relevant qualifications and experience in E.S.L. preferably a degree and some knowledge of ethnic minority communities.
For application form and further details, please apply to: S.A.E. quoting post title, to: Walsail Education Centre, Darwell Street, Walsail W1 1DQ. Closing date: 22.8.85. Employees of the G.C. and A.C. are welcome to apply. Walsail is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (1784) 710000

SURREY

Temporary Teacher of E.F.L. required for September for a language school. Initially a one year appointment. Committed Christian. Apply to: Mrs M.J. Ward, Headmistress, Chapel House, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. (17815) 700000

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A short step from teaching technical subjects up to £12,000 pa Farnborough Hants

If your flair for communication matches an expert grasp of engineering principles, we'll provide all the scope you need to build a successful and rewarding career as a Technical Author. At Solartron Instruments, we're renowned as one of Europe's foremost designers and manufacturers of precision electronic measurement products, including voltmeters, data loggers and dynamic analysis equipment.

The production of first class technical documentation is an essential part of our activities. We're looking for a number of talented individuals, probably teaching currently in a technical environment, to undertake these important tasks in both hardware and software.

Liaising with both R & D and Marketing Engineers you'll be involved in creating informative text, diagrams, tables and drawings. You will therefore need to have a high level of literacy, plus the ability to convey technical information in an understandable form. This may well have been gained teaching a relevant subject such as electronics, maths, physics, computer science etc.

These are particularly satisfying and enjoyable roles with a company continuing to expand with products of the very highest quality. Career prospects are outstanding and highly attractive salaries will be supplemented by a full package of benefits including 5 weeks' holiday, non-contributory pension scheme and generous assistance with relocation where appropriate.

For more information and an application form please telephone Alison Eastham, or write to her, enclosing a full CV to: Solartron Instruments, Victoria Road, Farnborough, Hants GU14 7PW. Tel: Farnborough (0252) 644433.

SOLARTRON
Schlumberger

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CITY POLYTECHNIC
TESOL CENTRE
Train to teach English to speakers of other languages. Open Polytechnic distance training programme plus short block learning.
CERTIFICATE IN TESOL (TESOL)
Courses for non-teaching speaker teachers and British teachers and graduates.
For further details apply to: The Director, City Polytechnic, Sheffield S1 1WB. Tel: (0743) 107431.

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English as a Second Language

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Required for September or January. Qualified teacher to join the school. English as a Second Language. The work mainly involves assisting bilingual pupils in mainstream subjects in addition to a background in E.S.L. Some experience in a specific area of the mainstream would be an advantage. Scale 3 can be made available to an appropriate candidate. Applications from black teachers are particularly welcome.
Please apply by letter to the Headteacher at the school. (17571) 710000

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EDUCATION COURSES continued

TEACHER TRAINING

OFFJAT MARLBARCH
Full-time RSA Preparatory Certificate Course from 16th September to 11th October. Full details from Marlarch Arch Teacher Training, 21 Star London W2. Tel: 01-402 5273. (17535) 750000

Tuition

HOME TUTOR required from September in Finchampstead, Berkshire, for intelligent six year old with mental handicap and fine motor difficulties. Accommodation available if required. Hourly fee £20.00 in 10 days. Written quotes available. Lutterworth 01-446 5481. 140000000000

UNIST University of Wales

A DEGREE COURSE IN ENGINEERING PRODUCTION AND PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

This is a new course designed to provide a fundamental training for students who are planning a career in the application of management science and manufacturing technologies to business and industry. The course is heavily biased towards the use of computer hardware and software for industrial problem solving.

Two degree schemes are available. A three year B Eng degree or a four year B Eng (Tech) integrated sandwich course. The four year integrated sandwich course includes a minimum of fifteen months of attachment to industry for practical training and professional experience.

Although the first two academic years of the new course are common with the existing B Eng/B Eng (Tech) Engineering Production courses, the final year offers an opportunity to study in depth subjects related to management science, viz. marketing, business policy etc.

Further details can be obtained from: Academic Registry, UNIST, PO Box 68, Cardiff CF1 3XA. Tel: Cardiff (0222) 42688. (1902) 700000

MALE LECTURER Maths/Statistics, seeks full time teaching post. Phone 015736350. (17215) 720000

MUSIC INSTRUCTOR for a new position as woodwind teacher (recorder, clarinet, flute, saxophone, euphonium, guitar). Free September. Experienced. Projects/workshops. Write to Mr W.R. Gillingham, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. (17500) 720000

WANTED

Economics/Statistics. Honours Graduate. 40 weeks post in the South East. Keen, outgoing, family man. Excellent references. Start September. Write Box No. 755 00414. (1902) 720000

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